

HOW·NI·KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

Vol. 23, No. 3

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

March 2001



Open At Last!

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's newest enterprise, FireLake Discount Foods, officially opened May 3. Tribal members and local dignitaries got the first look that night, and the store was open to the public May 4 with appropriate festivities and crowds of happy shoppers. In this photo, Chairman John A. Barrett, right, presents a Pendleton blanket to Joe Dickinson, store engineer for Hale Halsell, in appreciation for all his work.

Resolutions declared null and void

A formal written opinion filed by Citizen Potawatomi Nation District Judge Phil Lujan in the case challenging the power of the tribal chairman found all three resolutions in question unconstitutional and "null and void."

The resolutions sought to limit the power of the chairman to hire and fire and sign checks, and attempted to strip the chairman of a salary and tribal vehicle. Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. challenged the resolutions in tribal court, and Lujan ruled Feb. 20 on part of the dispute but not all. The rest came in the written opinion recently completed, which is reprinted in its entirety on pages 8 and 9 of this issue.

Echoing his verbal Feb. 20 ruling, Lujan wrote that "the Nation is on notice that the Chairman and the Vice Chairman are powerful positions and the voters should act accordingly." Stressing the separation of powers which he said sets the Potawatomi apart from other tribes and has been a major factor in its success, Lujan said the positions of chairman and vice chairman constitute the executive

branch of the tribal government, which is responsible for managing the day to day affairs of the tribe. "The Chairman is in effect the Chief Executive Officer of the Tribe ... the practical effect is that the Tribe elects their Chief Executive Officer." He said the Vice Chairman is "similarly empowered when acting in that capacity by absence, incapacity or delegation of the Chairman."

The Business Committee, he said, is the legislative branch and has "the most important power, the power to legislate ... The Business Committee has the authority to enact a personnel policies and procedures act. The Chairman and Vice Chairman would be required to follow the procedures." Lujan said past practices are irrelevant as far as the law is concerned, and added that "there are no perfect solutions to problems of governance. Each solution will create other problems. Someone has to be in charge."

The ruling has been appealed to the tribal Supreme Court, which will consider it in early June.

Heritage Festival almost here!

The 3rd annual Potawatomi Heritage Festival will be held June 29, 30 and July 1, 2001 at the Potawatomi Pow-wow grounds in Shawnee, OK. All Potawatomi and their families are invited to join in the fun and games.

This years festivities will begin with registration and then it's on to the fun and games that pack the weekend full of entertainment. Tribal members will be able to pre-register on-line at www.potawatomi.org. For those who do not have access to the internet, registration will be held at both the Tribal Headquarters and the Pow-wow grounds.

Friday's activities include the country and western dance that is sponsored by the Title VI elders, youth activities, and sign-up for all of the activities that begin on Saturday. The bowling center and bingo hall will be open all weekend for the families to enjoy along with the swimming pool and mini-putt. The nine families that will be having reunions are: RHODD, YOUNG, TESCIER, WELD/WELDFELT, LECLAIR, LAFRAMBOISE, JOHNSON, LAREAU, AND MELOTT.

The festival is three days of fun, fellowship and cultural enrichment. Tribal members are encouraged to plan a trip to Shawnee for this special event and to see how the Tribe has progressed since your last visit.

Saturday's activities include basketball, mini-putt, dance lessons, chess, checkers, and hand games. For those who would rather be indoors than out there will be language classes and movies about Potawatomi history. Tribal rolls will also be open for those who have not yet received a photo ID.

Children can take advantage of the swimming pool and arts and crafts that will be held in the child care area or they can play in the water fountain and playground area at the pow-wow grounds.

Among other events to be held are the fry bread cooking contest and the 'Indian car' contest. There will be the usual Saturday night Pow-wow dance where all Potawatomi, young and old, are encouraged to participate. Shawls for the ladies and sashes for the men will be provided to those who do not have one of their own. There will be the Men's Straight Dance and Women's Cloth for Potawatomi tribal members only to participate in.

Sunday will begin with church services and then it's on to the archery contest or volleyball competition. The day will end with goodbyes to friends of old and new.

If you are interested in attending and would like hotel information or RV parking information, contact Pam Smith at 405-275-3121.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

REQUEST FOR BALLOT • 2001 ELECTION

To comply with the 2000 Citizen Potawatomi Nation Election Ordinance, please complete this form and return to: Potawatomi Election Committee, P.O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873

DEADLINE: JUNE 11, 2001

NAME: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby declare this to be my legal signature and Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Roll Number:

SIGNATURE: _____ TRIBAL ROLL #: _____



Cut This Out & Return

TRIBAL TRACTS

Walking on

Ella Ruth Martin

Ella Ruth Martin, 76, Buna, Texas, died Dec. 31, at Beaumont, Texas, after a lengthy illness.

She was born July 18, 1924, near Maud. Her twin brother died at birth. She lived in Beaumont and Buna, Texas, area for many years.

She was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and was the great-granddaughter of Charles and Helen Beaubien.

She was preceded in death by her parents, A.A. "Bood" Duvall and Ada (Rutherford) Duvall of the Shawnee, Earlsboro and Maud areas; brothers, Edward and A.A. "Bud" Jr. of Shawnee; Curtis of Tecumseh; one sister, Wanda Macy of Guthrie.

Survivors include her husband, R.G. Martin of the home, Buna, Texas; four sisters, Alma Lee Brown and Reba Fern Elliott of Oklahoma City; Orene Bridges of Ardmore; Helen Chaffin of Seminole; a sister-in-law, Allie Montgomery; and many other relatives in the Shawnee area.

Cremation was at Beaumont Haven of Rest Cemetery under the direction of Kelley-Watkins Funeral Home.

Daniel R. Jines

Daniel R. Jines of Strawberry Plains, Tenn., died March 4, 2001 in Jefferson City, Tenn. He was 43.

He was born May 26, 1957, in California to Kenneth and Viola Jines. Jines, a graduate of Bethel High School, was married to Irene Jines. He lived in Bethel and Oklahoma City before moving to Tennessee eight years ago. He was a stone mason in home construction.

Jines was a member of Hopewell Baptist Church and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He was a descendant of Alexander Rhodd and Zoa Bruno.

He was preceded in death by his father K.R. Jines.

Survivors include his wife, Irene Jines of the home; four daughters, Danielle Jines of Shawnee, Dana Jines and Jesse Jines, both of Texas, and Jade Jines of the home; mother, Viola Jines of Shawnee; other family members, Jo Cunningham of Shawnee; Beverly Hughes of Tecumseh; Kenny Marcus of Tennessee; Debbie Scott of McLoud; Mike Marcus of Shawnee; Janae Hill of McLoud; Casey Larimore of McLoud; and Tony Marcus of Shawnee and other nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Graveside services were held at Highland Cemetery with Larry Townsend officiating. Services were under the direction of Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh.

Jordan Nadeau

Jordan David Nadeau, 22, died March 1, 2001, at a Manhattan hospital

from injuries he suffered in an automobile accident near Manhattan, Kansas.

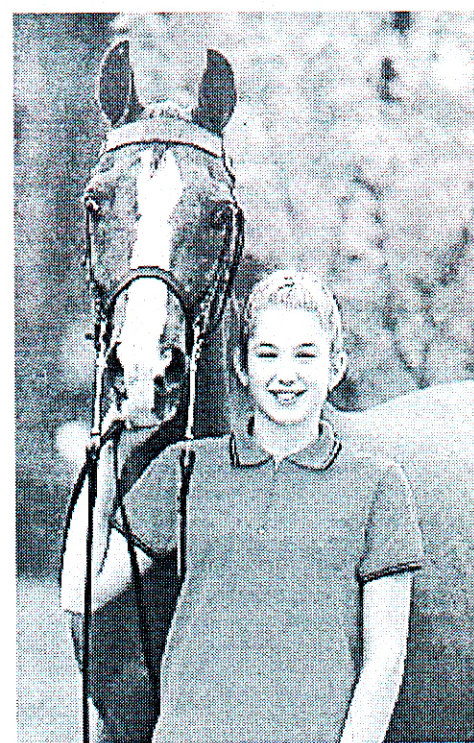
He was born October 2, 1978, in Topeka, KS, the son of David and Gay Strimple Nadeau. He was raised in Rossville, KS and graduated from Rossville High School in 1997, where he played baseball for four years and basketball for three years. He was enrolled at Topeka Technical College at the time of his death.

Jordan was a member of Rossville Christian Church and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He was a descendant of David B. Nadeau. He worked in the loss prevention division of WalMart for six years and also worked for Circuit City for one year.

Survivors include his parents, David and Gay Nadeau of Rossville; a brother, Dylan Nadeau of Concordia; a sister, Anna Nadeau of Rossville; his fiancé, Sherree Baker of Topeka; and grandparents, Orville and Jackie Strimple of Rossville; and Roxie Banta of Silver Lake.

Services were held March 5 at Rossville Christian Church under the direction of Piper-Verschelden Funeral Home. Burial was in the Rossville Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rossville Christian Church, 411 Spruce, Rossville, KS 66533; or to the Heritage Christian School Building Fund, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66617.



Morgan Shindler

Tribal member honored for horse show wins

The Missouri Horse Shows Association, a multi-breed organization made up of approximately 900 individual members and 179 member horse shows, presented the first place State award in Academy Saddle Seat Equitation Walk-Trot-Canter to Morgan Elizabeth Shindler of Fulton, Missouri, at its annual membership meeting and awards banquet held in Columbia, Missouri, on February 3, 2000. This award was based on Morgan's many wins during the 2000 show season at member horse shows held throughout Missouri.

Morgan is the eleven-year-old daughter of Kenda and Mike Shindler of Fulton, Missouri, and is a sixth grade student at South Callaway Middle School. Morgan began riding in September 1999 and is instructed by Gayle Lampe and Laura Ward of William Woods University in Fulton, Missouri, and Valery Kron of Callaway Hills Stable in New Bloomfield, Missouri.

The Missouri Horse Shows Association is an affiliate of the American Horse Shows Association and has as its purpose the promotion of breeding, development, exhibition, marketing, and ownership of light horses within the State of Missouri. The MHSA is organized to inspire, encourage interest in, and regulate equestrian competition. Member shows feature a variety of breeds of horses including American Saddlebreds, Arabians, Morgans, National Show Horses, Hackney and Shetland Ponies, Tennessee Walking Horses, Thoroughbreds, European Warmbloods, Quarter Horses, Paints and Missouri Fox Trotters. Disciplines covered include dressage, saddle seat, western, trail, hunter/jumpers, and combined training.

HOW-NI-KAN PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

The HowNiKan is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

The HowNiKan is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the HowNiKan and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

All letters and submissions become the property of the HowNiKan. Editorials and letters are subject to editing and must contain a traceable address. Final selection of material for publication is subject to approval by the Business Committee.

All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee
Chairman - John A. "Rocky" Barrett Jr.
Vice Chairman - Linda Capps
Sec./Treasurer - Gene Bruno
Committeeman - Hilton Melot
Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

Toll-Free Number: 1-800-880-9880
<http://www.potawatomi.org>

TRIBAL ELECTION NOTICE

The annual tribal referendum and election will be held on June 30, 2001. Voting will be at the tribal complex the day of the election from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Requests to vote an absentee ballot must be made by June 11, 2001. Requests for absentee ballots must be in writing and include the correct mailing address, roll number and legal signature of the person making the request. A referendum budget to determine expenditures of accumulated interest from set-aside funds, as well as the election of the Tribal Chairman for a four-year term and Grievance Committee Postions 1, 2 and 3 will be on the ballot. Requests for tribal election ballots should be mailed to: Potawatomi Election Committee, P.O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873.



TRIBAL TRACTS

From Our Mailbox

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I would like to thank you once again this semester for awarding me with such generous scholarships. I greatly appreciate all the help you have given me over the past year. I look forward each month to receiving the Tribal newspaper and learning more about my culture.

Sincerely,

Jamie A. Erler

Dear Scholarship Committee,

This letter is being written in response to all the financial help that you have graciously given me. Thank you so much. I appreciate this help very much. Thank you again. God bless!

Sincerely,

Kami Fleck

I would like to thank Linda Capps and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation for their generous donation towards my trip to Maui, Hawaii. This trip was very educational and a once in a lifetime learning experience. Once again, thank you for your help in making my

trip possible.

Monica Thomas
Granddaughter of Max Rhodd

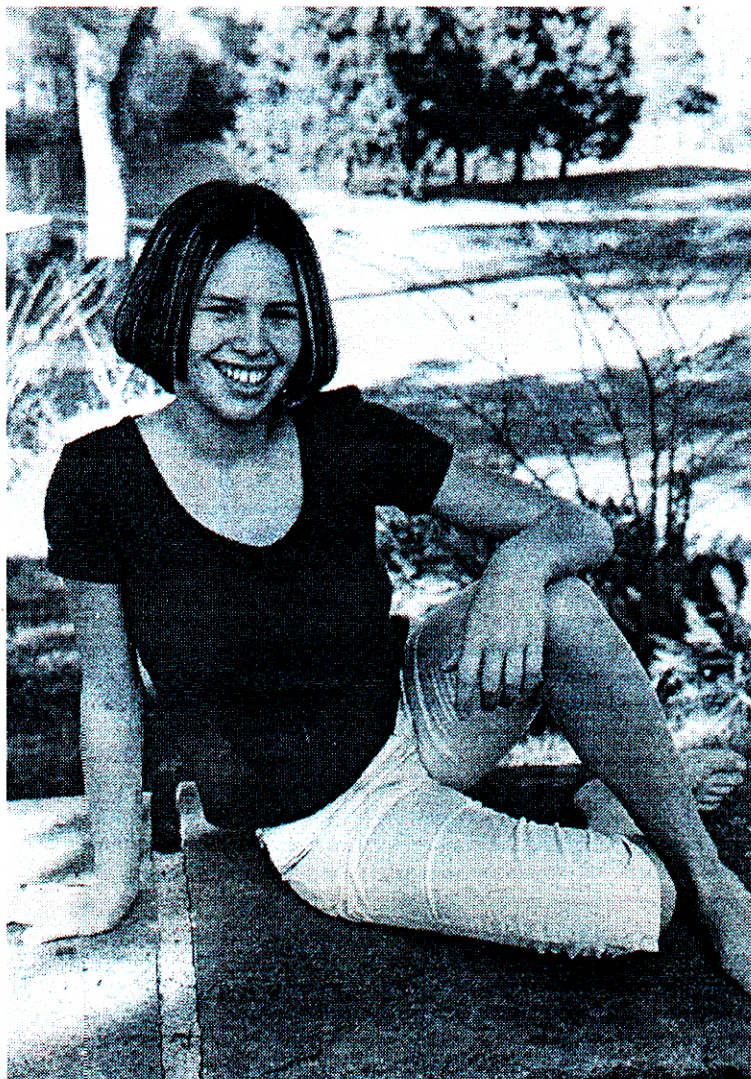
Spirits of the Fire

By Dawndra Wood, 14

Spirits of the fire are the spirits of our people that we cherish for our entire lives. More the spirits we have, the more the blaze burns higher in the fire. Spirits of the fire are the times we had with our people that are in heaven. The blazes that burn in the fire are the people we love. When we look closely in the blazing fire, you can see the loving, smiling faces of the people that we will always love because we will always know that they will always love us. The spirits of the fire are the only light we had when we didn't have the moon and the moon was our light when we didn't have the fire. Remember the spirits of the fire was all of our treasures through our lives and the people we still love in heaven.

The spirits of the fire are still in their lives and will always be.

Monica Thomas wins Hawaiian trip



Monica Thomas recently returned from Maui, Hawaii, where she represented Kansas in the Nation Cheerleaders Association by performing during half time at the Hula Bowl. Monica gained experience in the Hawaiian culture and customs. She was able to tour a volcano, saw the different vegetation and learned some Hawaiian language. When not practicing, Monica enjoyed whale watching, snorkeling, sailing, sightseeing and attended a luau.

Monica has been active in cheerleading for nine years. Monica was also a member of the string Orchestra and performed at the National Festival of the States in Washington, DC.

Monica is a descendant of Noah J. Rhodd, is a senior at Winfield High School and the daughter of Jim and Ronda Thomas. Her grandparents are Max and Vivian Rhodd and Bill and Norma Riley all of Winfield, KS. Great-grandparents are the late Robert H. and Amy Rhodd.



WELCOME. NEW CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ENROLLEES!

The following Tribal Members were enrolled under Previous Guidelines on February 22, 2001:

Cote, Joel Bernard
Cote, Sylvanus Vincent, Jr.
Forsthoefel, Margaret M. Cote
Green, Nicholas Raymond
Megarrah, Marilyn Corrine Cote
Mueller, Carol Mae Cote
Scott, Randal Eugene
Wamego, Robert Anthony
Wano, Braden Allen Emmitt

The following Tribal Members were enrolled by Descendancy on February 22, 2001:

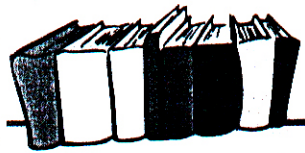
Adams, Brett Thomas
Baker, Dana Rochelle
Baxter, Emma Nicole
Bough, Allyson Renee
Brady, Larry Lee
Bright, Amber Jewel
Brooks, Chellee Jean
Brown, Brison Jacob
Brown, Heather Colleen Corkill
Brown, James Lee III
Bruno, Tiffany Marie
Byler, Jeremy Wayne

Byler, Joshua Keith
Byler, Justin Douglas
Calhoun, Jeffrey Don
Calhoun, Sheila Lanae
Cavender, Cheyenne Nichole
Cedar, Jack Anthony II
Cedar, Jason Royce
Chandler, Brooke Lorae
Cheatwood, Jared Isaiah Heath
Christian, Kira Allison
Corkill, Jennifer Ann
Cowdin, Aaron Michael
Cowdin, Makaila Marie
Coykendall, Rayna Danielle
Cranford, David Joseph
Crawford, Shyanne Michelle
Davis, Alexis Cecilia
DiBernardo, Joshua Anthony
Dinsmore, Dakota William
Elden, Kristina Ann
Emery, Keegan Lee Jade
Fitzgerald, Thomas Michael
Forbis, Bailey Sheldon
Foster, Ian Edward
Fox-Lemus, Ivy Rachelle
Frazier, Justin Wayne, Jr.
Frazier, Misty Dawn Kester

Frazier, Starla Kay Renee
Gannon, Kyle Wayne
George, Alexandra Paige
Genevieve
Gonzalez, Alexis Don
Gonzalez, Logan German
Hamilton, Andrew Seth
Hamilton, Caleb Martin
Hamilton, Jordan Hewitt
Herrick, Savannah Kate
Hey, Roger Lee
Higbee, Garrett Christian
Hilmes, Ille Marie
Holeman, James Michael
Holeman, Joseph Lee
Huff, Jonathan Paul
Jackson, Jonathan Jose
Jackson, Julie Marie
Janeway, Delane Scott
Jones, Amy Elizabeth
Jones, Brian Christopher
Jones, David Brandon
Jones, Easton Victoria
Jones, Katie Elizabeth
Jones, Kelsie Lee
Jones, Lori Elizabeth
Jones, Michael Andrew

Jones, Stacie Elizabeth
Jones, Timothy Allen
Keys, Erika Luevany
King, Dakota Hunter
LaClair, Jacob Ronald
LaClair, Nicole Michele
LeClaire, Allyson Brooke
LeClaire, Dakota Ray
Mabus, Destiny Nicole
Mayhew, Samantha Ann
Merrell, Travis Jackson
Morris, Paige Renee
Morris, Taylor Lynn
Moss, Travis Ryan
Norwood, Shannon Lynn
Osburn, Kysen Joshua
Perez, Chance LaRue
Perez, Chase Delano
Perry, Vanessa Latrice
Prewett, Kaitlyn Breanne
Pringle, Halee Ray Don
Roberts, Austin Scott
Ross, Rylie Madison Marie
Sabado, Jeremiah James
Sanders, Brooke Angela
Saunders, Griffin Tate
Scott, Ryan Matthew

Segal, Sylvia Lucille
Shultz, Jennifer Renee
Shultz, Megan Nicole
Simes, Cole Lukacs
Simmons, Paris Michele
Sinor, Breyer Pierce
Smith, Devon Nicole
Smith, Ryan Joseph
Snell, Anthony James
St. Peter, Justin Troy
St. Peter, Kevin Andre
St. Peter, Kyle Andre
Steier, Ashlyn Dawn
Thomasson, Samuel Gene
Vitelle, Timothy Dean
Watkins, Steven Gary
Webb, Rendi Kaye
Webb, Skylor Keith
Whitaker, Donald Ray, II
Williams, Jacob Kendall
Wise, Kassie N'Kole
Wise, Nicholas James
Wydner, Christian James
Yost, Kyanne Skye
Yost, Shalyn Michelle
Zimprich, Logan Alexander



BOOK REPORT

By Hyale Smith, Tribal Rolls Assistant
Title: People of the Three Fires, The Ottawa, Potawatomi and Ojibway of Michigan
Authors: James A. Clifton, George L. Cornell, and James M. McClurken
Publisher: The Michigan Indian Press, Grand Rapids Inter-Tribal Council

Available at: Borders, Barnes & Noble, and Four Winds Indian Books

People of the Three Fires, originally written to be used as a text book in Michigan secondary schools, gives us a short history of three of Michigan's Native American tribes. Three distinct voices tell the story of these Indian tribes, who share a common cultural and linguistic heritage. All three authors tell much the same story, of indigenous people and their interactions with the French, British and American, from the 1600s to the present day. However, each author complements the work of the other two, by focusing on a different aspect of this history and writing from his own individual perspective.

The chapter on the Ottawa is written by James M. McClurken, who is a PhD candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Michigan State University and is working on his doctoral dissertation on the Ottawa of lower Michigan. He starts with a brief description of tribal life, social customs, and economic system prior to the 1600s. He then provides a good overview of the history of the Ottawa from the first encounters with Europeans in the Seventeenth Century to modern times.

Even though this chapter often reads like a doctoral dissertation, his prose tends to be a bit dry and dusty — McClurken manages to cram a lot of information into fewer than 50 pages. He describes how this tribe was affected by the political conflicts between Great Britain and France, during the fur trading years. And then he goes on to discuss the tribes relationship with the United States government, regarding land ownership, education, language and culture.

Dr. George L. Cornell, currently an assistant professor of English/American Studies at Michigan State University, wrote the section on the Ojibway (or Chippewa).

Even though he covers much of the same historical material as the other authors, his style of writing is much different. His work often reads like a high-school textbook. He has a tendency to oversimplify and make sweeping generalizations. I often found his words getting in the way of his message.

In spite of the awkwardness of his prose, he did have some interesting tidbits of information. One is a theory he puts forth to explain why the Ojibway originally migrated West from the Atlantic seaboard. Cornell believes it was because they were trying to flee the devastation caused by European diseases brought to the New World by the Norse explorers around 1000 AD.

Cornell also provides a plausible explanation for why the passenger pigeon is now extinct. He describes how Michigan hunters overharvested them in order to satisfy the demand of urban markets.

The chapter on the Potawatomi is

written by Dr. James A. Clifton, currently a professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin. He has written extensively about the Potawatomi and also has been an expert witness on behalf of the Michigan Potawatomi in federal court.

I found his writing style to be more lively than that of the other two authors. He tends to give the story behind the story. His chapter stresses the political and economic forces that affected Potawatomi life in southwestern Michigan. He also includes biographical information on Nineteenth Century Potawatomi leaders.

He describes the Potawatomi as being very astute, both politically and economically. When they first starting trading furs with the French, they were quick to grasp the economic advantages this new enterprise afforded and soon took a leadership position with respect to other tribes in the area. They also improved their economic position after the introduction of the horse in 1755. They quickly abandoned the canoe in favor of a faster and more efficient form of transportation.

One of the major strengths of the Potawatomi was their tribal organization. Historically, they considered themselves to be one people, even though they might be separated geographically into small villages. Even the French and British colonists respected this and treated with them as a single entity. However, this tribal organization did not survive after the War of 1812, primarily due to the American governments policy of dividing tribal groups in its efforts to acquire more land.

Unfortunately, the Potawatomi had a tendency of choosing the wrong side during the various European wars. They fought with the French, against the English during the French Indian War. Then they fought with the English, both during the American Revolution and, a few years later, during the War of 1812. In all cases, when the Europeans drew up their post-war treaties, neither side bothered to consult with the Potawatomi (or any other Native American tribe, for that matter).

Clifton explains how and why the tribe broke up into separate bands in the Nineteenth Century. Primarily, it was to avoid removal from their traditional lands in Michigan. Some accepted Canadas invitation to move North of the border. Others were successful in their negotiations with both the US and state governments and were able to remain in Michigan. And, of course, many were removed to the West, to Kansas and, later, to Oklahoma.

In conclusion, I would recommend this book for adults, as well as for high school students. It provides a good introduction into the history of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. It also includes a fairly inclusive bibliography, for those people interested in further study.

If you are interested in reading this book, you can check with your local library or bookstore. (The Tribal Library does not lend books; they are for on-site research only.)

Landmark ruling affirms government role in trusts

Washington, DC — In a precedent-setting opinion, a federal appeals court affirmed recently that the federal government has a legally-enforceable duty to properly manage and account for Indian trust assets. The unanimous ruling of the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit, represents a major court victory for over 300,000 individual Indians whose trust funds have been egregiously mismanaged by the federal government for over a century. According to John Echohawk, Executive Director of the Native American Rights Fund, the decision also represents "one of the strongest judicial affirmations of the United State's trust responsibility to Native Americans."

The historic ruling comes in the landmark class action lawsuit filed nearly five years ago by the Native American Rights Fund — *Cobell v. Norton* (formerly *Cobell v. Babbitt*). The suit alleges that the government breached its fiduciary duties to individual Indian trust beneficiaries, and seeks a full and accurate accounting of all funds held in trust by the government on behalf of individual Indians. Following a lengthy trial, U.S. District Court Judge Royce C. Lamberth ruled on December 21, 1999 that the government has indeed breached its duties, calling the

mismanagement of Indian trust funds "fiscal and government irresponsibility in its purest form." In what he characterized as a "stunning victory" for the Indian plaintiffs, Judge Lamberth affirmed the rights of Indian trust beneficiaries to an accurate and complete accounting of their funds, and retained jurisdiction over the case for a period of at least five years to ensure that the government follows through with long-overdue trust fund management reform.

The unanimous opinion of the D.C. Circuit upholds Lamberth's ruling. Writing for the court, Judge David Sentelle held that Lambert's retention of jurisdiction in the case was well-justified given the "magnitude of government malfeasance" in its management of Indian trust funds, and stressed that "what little progress the government has made appears more due to the litigation than diligence in discharging its fiduciary obligations."

This opinion sets the stage for the next phase of the case — the accounting — which will involve a second trial before Judge Lamberth to determine accurate trust fund account balances. Plaintiffs have requested that the second trial commence by the end of the year.

Bosho fellow tribal members,

I am William 'Dub' Howell of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, I am a member of the Curley family of the Sacred Heart area. I am a Potawatomi that knows who he is and where



my roots are. I have never been interested in running for any tribal position until now. I have always known what was happening and now due to what has taken place in the last few weeks, I feel like it's time to get involved.

I believe I can help make a difference, I will be fair and honest and do my best to live up to these promises.

I ask for your support and your vote.

William 'Dub' Howell
 Grievance Committee Position # 2

Free Political Ad

Mark Your Calendar!
Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Heritage Festival

June 29, 30 & July 1



Start making plans to attend the

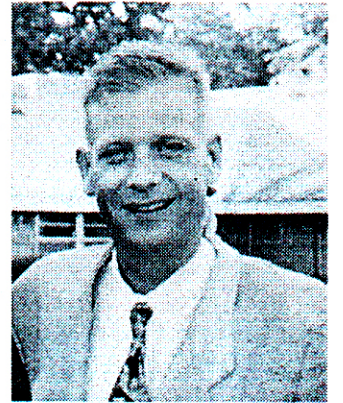
8th Annual

**Potawatomi Traditional Gathering &
 Pow Wow scheduled for
 August 2, 3, 4, & 5, 2001**

**Hosted by the Potawatomi Nation of Canada
 Wasauksing First Nation
 Parry Island, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada**

**If you are interested in joining the Citizen
 Potawatomi Nation for this occasion,
 please contact Vickie Canfield or Cathie
 Hanson at 405-275-3121 or 800-880-9880.**

*Vote
for*



*Clay Oden
 Grievance
 Committee #3
 June 30, 2001*

Free Political Advertisement

I have been attending the regional council meetings for several years (10 or 11) and the Festival last year was my first. I have observed that there appears to be a lot of friction between the council members and the chairman. It appears that Ms. Lowden has been recruited to run against the chairman. I think this is wonderful. We should always have competition for our tribal posts. The most and best qualified should win. I would like for Esther to explain in the How-Ni-Kan how she proposes to keep our culture and progress in its current state. It is mandatory that we elect someone with VISION, with the abilities to run a multimillion dollar company. That is what we are. We can become like the Mescalero Apaches and the Navajos, constantly bickering for the sake of my toes were stepped on and I want to run the show. If Esther has a Business plan and a vision for what we are to do next I have not seen it. If Hilton and Gene have a plan, what is it? One plan I have seen is the Sacred Heart Potawatomi's attempted birth. Is this the plan, divide and conquer? Why would we do that? We have one of the most successful tribal constitutions and governments in all the Nations. What was the Gift shop under Esther Lowden? Was it a raging success? Why did she quit? Was it to run for chairperson? What will she do to keep the growth on track? What is her VISION? It seems at the regional council meetings there is not cohesion of management. Rocky it appears is trying to promote our culture and language. Hilton is in the other room watching the football game on television. I hear the talk that we do not promote and accept the old ways. What I have seen is the elders are respected. Once again of the twenty-five people I have talked to that are of voting age, they all say one thing - What is the PLAN? What is the VISION? Please Hilton, Please Gene, Please Esther lay it out. Tell us what you will do. Not just I want to get back to Culture and Language. Those are things we are doing. If you do not see this, how can you run our tribe?

I met with Mr. Barrett and asked him some very hard, embarrassing questions. I feel he answered them honestly. They did not always put him in a good light, but he did answer them. At this time I feel he is the best person for the job. If my questions can be answered I could change my mind.

Ashley G. Blackman Jr.

Paid for by Ashley G. Blackman, Jr., P.O. Box 162295, Ft. Worth, TX 76161



An Even Dozen

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation was recently awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 12th year in a row. The award was for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1999. Pictured are, back row from left, Arthur Epperson, Shelly Brown, Dee Wood, Susan Blair, Ginger Johnson and Sam Caruso; front row, Carolyn Sullivan, Letha Goodchief, Amber Barnett, Claudie Bailey and Vice Chairman Linda Capps.

Tribal member asked to perform at Prague Festival

J. Davis Hobdy, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Texas, has been invited to present his dance company, PIECES, and perform in the Prague Festival 2001 in Prague, Czech Republic from April 5-May 1, 2001. Hobdy's modern and pointe works will be two of over 140 dances presented during this six day invitation only dance festival.

PIECES is directed by Hobdy and will also take a modern work by Dallas area choreographer Lily Cabatu Weiss.

In all, Hobdy and 23 others from his Dallas based dance company will make the trip to Europe with performances in Mlada Boleslav, Czech Republic and Prague, Czech Republic. One other American Indian from A small tribe in Arizona will also be dancing with PIECES on this trip.

Visit our web site at http://www.geocities.com/pieces_texas for further information or e-mail PIECES at pieces_texas@hotmail.com.

Bozho Tribal Members,
My name is John Rhodd,
and I am running for the
Tribal Grievance
Committee Position #1.



I grew up in Kansas and moved from South Carolina to Oklahoma to learn more about and be a part of our tribe.

I've put 21 years in the Army, so I know what honor, honesty and integrity mean.

I'm proud to be Potawatomi, and hope to serve the Tribe well.

William "John" Rhodd

Free Political Advertisement



PLEASE VOTE

ESTHER LOWDEN TRIBAL CHAIRMAN TIME FOR A CHANGE

REMEMBER DEADLINE DATE FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS IS JUNE 11TH

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Free Political Ad

What does the Tribe do for you if you don't live in the Shawnee area?

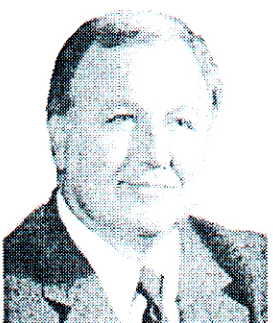


LOTS!

Tribal members who live in the immediate Shawnee area are able to witness Citizen Potawatomi progress on a daily basis. It's right there before their eyes: FireLake Discount Foods, First National Bank & Trust Co., FireLake Entertainment Center, the health

clinic, tribal headquarters, the golf course, the restaurant, the farm, the miniature golf course, the festival grounds ... so much it's hard to list it all here. But sometimes the thousands of members who live elsewhere may wonder about the benefits their Tribe provides for them. In addition to Tribal Pride and Tribal Heritage, here's a partial list of a few of the practical benefits John A. Barrett Jr. played a role in bringing to ALL Tribal members:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ★ Free Prescription Drugs for all Tribal members over 63! | ★ More eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures and dental prosthetics! | ★ Business loan assistance for Tribal Members! |
| ★ "At Cost" Prescription Drugs for all members under 63! | ★ Regional Council meetings to give <u>ALL</u> Tribal members a voice! | ★ Regular editions of The HowNiKan to keep <u>ALL</u> members informed! |
| ★ 300% increase in college and vocational scholarships! | ★ \$2150 free mortgage grant for first timers ... and refinancing as well! | ★ Burial insurance for Tribal members! |



LET'S KEEP THE CHAIRMAN WHO GOT US WHERE WE ARE

JOHN A. BARRETT JR.

Paid For By John A. Barrett Jr., 1210 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

FULL TEXT OF OPINION IN CPN DISTRICT COURT CASE CIV-00-08

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee,
the governing body of the tribe; and John BARRETT, Jr., Linda CAPPS; Gene BRUNO; Hilton MELOT; and Jerry P. MOTLEY, in their official capacities as Members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee,
PLAINTIFFS,

vs.

Case No.: CIV-00-08

John A. BARRETT, Jr., Chairman, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee,
Defendant.

OPINION

This matter is of great importance to the Potawatomi Nation. It is a case of first impression in that the Defendant has invoked the authority of the Court to declare laws unconstitutional under Article 11, Section 3. There is no need to address the jurisdictional basis of the Court's judicial review and authority to issue injunctive relief. The Tribal Constitution is unequivocal in its grant of authority to the Court. The heart of the controversy resides in the interpretation of the power relationship between the Business Committee and the executive office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman contained in Articles 6 and 7 concerning the Executive officers and Business Committee respectively.

Before the specific issues are examined relative to the relevant constitutional provisions some general historical observations must be made. These historical observations provide the backdrop against which the specific constitutional provisions must be examined. By history, the Court references the near history of Tribal development in Oklahoma. For years, the Tribes in Oklahoma were the stepchildren of the unique Federal Tribal relationship. We never sat at the big table and we were fed the scraps of sovereignty. When we attended NCAI meetings it seemed that each dramatic unfolding of the burgeoning sovereignty for other Tribes ended with "But not for you Oklahoma." Fortunately, this situation changed with the Little Chief case in the 1970's. Sovereignty was no longer a slogan for Indian Tribes in Oklahoma. The real development of Indian Tribal governments began. It was like giving the keys to the family car to a sixteen year old. The parents (B.I.A.) know the kid (Tribes) does not have the requisite experience, knowledge or skills. But, the government (Federal Courts) says he has the legal right to drive. Our older siblings (the State governments) wished us ill. They did not have a long wait. No one has the courage to publish the misdeeds, mismanagement and illegalities that have occurred since the Tribes were handed the keys. Few will even speak privately of the incredible squandering of opportunity and two decades of extensive Federal funding.

Tribal governments had to be brought out of their corporate lethargy, managerial atrophy and antiquated constitutional formats. A contemporary conceptual model for Tribal governments had to be developed. One capable of dealing with the new reality of economic and Tribal developments. There were two primary concepts which were discussed by the Indian lawyers and leaders. The first concept offered to develop Tribal governments was the concept of a Board of Directors. This was taken from for-profit and non-profit corporations, an apt analogy for Tribal governments. Boards of Directors do not meet every day and it is not contemplated that they will meet each day. Quarterly meetings are a standard. Business Committees should establish policies and enact laws which shape policy for the Tribe. They should not micro-

manage the day to day operation of every Tribal program. A Chief Executive Officer or Business Manager should direct the day to day operations and deal with personnel matters. Very few Tribes have accomplished this. They stand out because of their economic development, managerial skills and development of professional mid-level management.

The second concept was the separation of the powers of government. The first aspect of which was the establishment of an independent judiciary. Many Tribes have yet to accomplish this. The second aspect, implicit in this concept is the separation of the Executive and Legislative functions. No other Tribe in Oklahoma has accomplished this. Incredible mischief and confusion has been the result. For the knowledgeable, the Court only needs to direct attention to the Tribes of Western Oklahoma. However, the Potawatomi Nation is poised on the brink of this breakthrough. The Constitution provides for this separation but it has not happened in practice. This recent history of incorporating a conceptual framework capable of supporting Tribal and economic development is the foundation of the notable Potawatomi success. The Potawatomi Constitution provides a practical basis for the separation of Executive and Legislative functions. The Executive is established, delineated and empowered separately. The Court notes that the F. Browning Pipestem Law Firm, a leader in the development of Indian law and Tribal governments in Oklahoma, was the primary drafter of the present Potawatomi Constitution. The full realization of a separation of powers between the Executive and the Legislative is at hand. For now the Court must wrestle with the confusion created by past custom of the governing bodies and the legacy of the Bureau's form Constitutions provided to the Tribes.

For interpretation purposes, the Court has absolutely no interest in past practices, customary actions or procedures of the Business Committee. All parties acted in good faith. What they may have thought is irrelevant to a constitutional interpretation analysis. However, these customary actions have caused confusion.

The Chairman is both a Legislative and a Chief Executive Officer. When he presides at meetings he is Legislative. When he acts as the Chief Law Enforcement Officer and as the Chief Executive Officer of the Tribe he is acting in his separate Executive capacity.

It is unfortunate that the new Constitution continued to use the term Chairman. This is left over from the old B.I.A. standard form Constitutions created for the extension of the Indian Reorganization Act to Oklahoma. This artifact potentially changes the perception of the role of the Chairman/Vice-Chairman as the Chief Executive Officer of the Tribe. The Chairman only functions in a limited Chairman sense when he chairs the meetings of the Business Committee. Then he is a Legislator. In every other capacity the Chairman/Vice-Chairman, in their Executive roles function more analogously to the president of a nation, governor of a state or chief executive officer of a corporation.

This is clear from Article 6, Section 2, set out below. There are three clear and separate powers and authorities. First, the section addresses the Chairman as the presiding officer of the General Council and Business Committee. The Chairman is then authorized all duties attached or connected to being the presiding officer of these two bodies. This would mean when they are in session he functions in this capacity. When the General Council and Business Committee are not in session he has two remaining distinct and independent roles and authority by virtue of his role as an Executive. The second separate authority is the requirement that the Chairman/Vice-Chairman

must see that the laws of the Tribe are faithfully enforced. This is a separate discontinuous and additional grant of authority from the first above. It operates independent of the General Council and Business Committee. The laws of the Tribe cover vast areas that go beyond the General Council and Business Committee meeting context. The second separate authority as an Executive Officer occurs in the final sentence of section 2. Once again this is an independent authority. It functions outside of and beyond General Council and Business Committee activity. It covers activity way beyond the activity of the Business Committee and General Council.

To read this section in any other manner violates the logical structure of the phrases and sentences. Plaintiffs argue the third phrase merely empowers the Chairman to act within the context of the General Council and Business Committee's direction or instruction. Then it is redundant and superfluous, because the Chairman/Vice-Chairman has already been granted authority to "perform all duties appertaining to the office" in his role as presiding Legislator.

The Court will set out below its analysis of the specific third grant of power contained in Article 2. The principal constitutional provisions at the heart of this controversy are Article 6 and Article 7.

Article 6 of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Constitution creates the Executive branch of the Nation. Article 6, Section 2 states that "It shall be the duty of the Chairman to preside at all meetings of the Council and the Business Committee and perform all duties appertaining to the office, and the Chairman shall see that the laws of the Tribe are faithfully enforced. The Chairman SHALL HAVE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNCIL AND OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE." (Emphasis added.)

Section 3 states:

"The Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman in his absence or during his incapacity to act, and shall undertake such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Chairman or by the law."

Article 7, creates the Business Committee.

"Section 1. There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the Executive Officers as provided in Article 6 and two (2) Councilmen who shall serve for four (4) year terms and until their successors shall be qualified and installed in office.

Section 2. Subject to any limitations in this Constitution, and except for those powers expressly reserved to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Council by the Constitution, or delegated to another tribal entity by this Constitution, the Business Committee is empowered to enact legislation, transact business, and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in all matters of which the Tribe is empowered to act now or in the future, including the authority to hire legal counsel or represent the Tribe, the choice of counsel and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior so long as such approval is required by Federal law."

The assistance of the formal and denotative meanings of those words is infinitely more probative than the casual opinion of lay people.

Black's Law Dictionary defines supervision as "an act of occupation of supervising." To supervise means "to have general oversight over, to superintend or to inspect." A superintendent is one who has executive oversight and charge. Oversight is defined as watchful and responsible care. In Black's, supervisor is defined as "In a broad sense, one having authority over others, to superintend and direct. The term 'supervisor' means any individual having authority, in the interest of the employer, to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off,

recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or responsibly to direct them, or to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action, if in connection with the foregoing the exercise of such authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature, but requires the use of independent judgment." Further, general is defined as "pertaining to or designating the genus or class, as distinguished from that which characterizes the species or individual; universal, not particularized, as opposed to special; principal or central, as opposed to local; open or available to all, as opposed to select; obtaining commonly, or recognized universally, as opposed to particular; universal or unbounded, as opposed to limited; comprehending the whole or directed to the whole, as distinguished from anything applying to or designed for a portion only. Extensive or common to many." (Emphasis added.)

These are powerful words and cumulatively lead the Court to conclude that the Chairman is in effect the Chief Executive Officer of the Tribe. This conferral of power and authority is consistent with the clear and unequivocal meanings of the words. To do less interpretatively for political expedience or preservation of the status quo, would be an act of intellectual cowardice. The practical effect is the Tribe elects their Chief Executive Officer. This officer is delegated the authority by the Constitution to run the business of the Tribe. Further, it is important to state that the Vice-Chairman is similarly empowered when acting in that capacity by absence, incapacity or delegation of the Chairman. This would include the authority in a practical sense to hire, fire and supervise employees. These powers are not strange powers created by the Court. They are part of the U.S. Government's operation with its separation of powers. The American experience will provide valuable analogies. The system can be adapted to the Potawatomi experience and circumstances. The Potawatomi can avoid mistakes and incorporate successes. It would also include the authority to spend money on behalf of the Tribe for its business affairs. Plaintiffs' brief argues that such power would emasculate the Business Committee. Actually, to ascribe this power to the Business Committee emasculates the constitutional delegation of such authority to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Further, Plaintiffs argue in their response brief that supervising is limited by the wishes of the person for whom a supervisor works or the owner of a business. This is an inappropriate and misplaced analogy. The Business Committee does not own the Tribe. They own nothing, not even their positions. Further, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are employees of the Business Committee. If truly believed, this is a more disturbing and dangerous assertion than any made against the Chairman by the Plaintiffs in their briefs.

Plaintiffs further argue that if adopted, the Defendant's argument would emasculate and make redundant the power of the Business Committee and General Council. In actuality, the Business Committee has seventeen constitutionally delegated powers. Several of them are shared and one is a one time feature. There are twelve constitutionally delegated powers to the General Council. All of these powers remain intact given the interpretation by the Court. Further, the Business Committee still retains the most important power, the power to legislate. The Court would not belittle the power to share the future of the Nation through the visionary shaping of the law versus the day to day management of the Tribe. For instance, the Business Committee has the authority to enact a personnel policies and procedures act. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman would be required to follow the procedures to hire, fire or take

FULL TEXT OF OPINION IN CPN DISTRICT COURT CASE CIV-00-08

personnel actions. However, if the Business Committee unreasonably limited the authority of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to act, this limitation could rise to the point of an unconstitutional usurpation of the power of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

There are no perfect solutions to problems of governance. Each solution will create other problems. Someone has to be in charge. If the Chairman doesn't have the authority as Plaintiffs suggest, then the Committee's authority is rife with problems. Who is responsible for a particular personnel action? Employees would ignore or quickly go around a Chairman or Vice-Chairman to the Business Committee because both executives would have no real power. The Business Committee would be embroiled in personnel matters however petty. It would be difficult to provide the broader visionary perspective of leadership. Consider the morale of Tribal employees. Who would prefer working for and trying to please five bosses rather than one? The number of bosses created by the Business Committee management of personnel increases exponentially the hazards to employees rather than providing a buffer or protection. Such naivete would be quickly remedied by observing and interviewing the former Tribal employees of Western Oklahoma Tribes. This format would transform the Potawatomi into Western Oklahoma Tribal governments who for twenty years have been going around the same mountain, wandering in the wilderness of ineffective government.

It is paramount to follow the law even when it has unintended effects. It is more dangerous to "hot wire" around the law than to face the consequences of the law and change the law properly. The Court accepts the presumed fact that a hundred or more Potawatomi would state they had no idea that the Constitution gave such broad power to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. They might even state they did not want the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to have that much power. I would acknowledge their disagreement or even dismay. However, it does not change the words in the Constitution.

If a sufficient number of Potawatomi do not want the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to have such power then they need to amend the Constitution. The Court would leave it to history to decide if this would be a forward or a backward step. Henceforth, the Nation is on Notice that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are powerful positions and the voters should act accordingly.

The Court has in its twenty-six years of experience, has reviewed Tribal Constitutions that have a weak Chairman strong Committee format. This characterization does not fit the Potawatomi Constitution. Some additional observations provide instruction and insight into the Court's interpretation. If you look literally at the Constitution the executive branch outnumbers the legislative branch. There are three members in the executive committee, and two members in the Business Committee. These five make up the Business Committee. If you just look at that, which one is most important? How do we assign importance to something? We assign importance to something by making it larger. There's three executive and two Council members. Wonder why it wasn't five Council members and three executive? And if you really wanted to make the Business Committee most important, make it ten Business Committee members and three executive. Then, you would get an idea of relative importance. It is obvious the executive is more important in relative weight to the Business Committee.

Take a straight ahead and simple look at the literal structure of the Constitution. The Constitution only requires the Business Committee to meet four times a year. That's the only number of times the Constitution requires them to meet. They can meet at other times

when the Chairman calls a special meeting, or when three other members of the Business Committee want a special meeting. Any time that the Business Committee meets, other than quarterly, it's a special meeting. This is not directly before the Court. But, the Business Committee does not have the authority under the Constitution to declare a standing meeting. Technically, you could have any number of special meetings properly called. If the Constitution only requires four meetings and the meetings are quarterly, it clearly shows the intent of the Constitution. It did not intend for the Business Committee to be responsible for the day to day operations. If it did it would have said be there daily or weekly. Remember, if only one of the Business Committee is present, it would mean nothing administratively. This is because the Business Committee is only the Business Committee when there is a quorum. The Business Committee is going to handle what is going on every day of the Tribe or be at least ultimately responsible? This is not a logical conclusion. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman do not require meetings to exercise power to run the daily business of the Tribe. The delegation is complete.

Finally, Article 7, Section 2 provides: "SUBJECT TO ANY LIMITATIONS IN THIS CONSTITUTION, and except for those powers expressly reserved to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Council by this Constitution, OR DELEGATED TO ANOTHER TRIBAL ENTITY BY THIS CONSTITUTION, the Business Committee is empowered to enact legislation, transact business, and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in all matters of which the Tribe is empowered to act now or in the future, including the authority to hire legal counsel or represent the Tribe, the choice of counsel and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior so long as such approval is required by Federal law." (Emphasis added.)

This provision limits the power of the Business Committee in relation to the power of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman previously delegated, under Article 6 as discussed above. The authority to manage the day to day affairs of the Tribe argued by Plaintiffs has been delegated out of their domain.

The Court having concluded the analysis of the relationship of the authority of the Business Committee and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman moves specifically to the consideration of the three resolutions. They are Resolutions #01-01, 01-45 and 01-46. The Court finds such previous analysis dispositive of the constitutionality of the Resolutions numbered 01-01 and 01-46. Resolution 01-01 on its face attempts to divest the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Chairman's and Vice-Chairman's constitutional authority to have general supervision of the Tribal business. In particular, the authority of the Chairman acting as a C.E.O. or Administrator, contrary to Plaintiffs' assertion that Article 7, Section 2 patently supports the validity of Resolution #01-01. Further, as long as there is Tribal money budgeted or designated by prior personnel action for the payment of a Tribal Administrator, the Business Committee may not use the "power of the purse strings" to unconstitutionally control the constitutionally delegated authority of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to act as the C.E.O. of the Tribe. The funding, budgeting, or appropriation for such a position, is a separate matter not before the Court. The same analysis applies to the use of a Tribal vehicle.

Similarly, Resolution #01-46 clearly on its face unconstitutionally attempts to divest the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of their constitutionally delegated authority to function as the C.E.O. or Administrator of Tribal business. Thus, it fails for the previously stated analysis.

It attempts to limit the reach of this authority by setting an arbitrary salary range for exclusive authority by the Business Committee. This is on its face an attempt to usurp the authority of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Lastly, Plaintiffs' response brief, at page 2, argues that 01-45 merely makes explicit the past practice of requiring two endorsements on all Tribal checks: one by the Secretary-Treasurer and the other by any other member of the Business Committee members. Plaintiffs argue that this Secretary-Treasurer exercises the powers of the Secretary-Treasurer "under the direction of the Business Committee," at page 3.

"The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive and keep all moneys of the Council and an accurate account of receipts and disbursements. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in one or more tribal accounts as may be provided by legislation of the Business Committee, and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check." C.P.N. Const. Art. VI, § 4 (emphasis added).

This blurs the separation of power between the executive and legislative (Business Committee). The emphasis added phrase above is more reasonably interpreted as the ability to provide by legislation the opening of accounts for Tribal moneys. In other words, it would be a proper exercise of the Business Committee to pass a Resolution (legislation), which authorizes the opening of an account. Once opened the Executive branch through Article 6 places the disbursements and fiduciary duty responsibility with the Executive officers. Specifically, to the Secretary-Treasurer and generally to the

Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Thus, the Business Committee does not have the constitutional legislative authority to delegate the authority to sign checks, which is solely an executive function, to the other two Business Committee members who are not executive officers.

Further, the Business Committee does not have the constitutional authority to eliminate the signature of the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, when delegated by the Chairman. This is a usurpation of the authority delegated to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. If only two signatures are required it must be the Secretary-Treasurer and one of the two remaining executive officers. This is consistent with the earlier analysis of the constitutional authority of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. To clarify, the Business Committee authorizes the opening or creation of accounts. It designates the type of money that will be deposited in that account. It establishes budgetary categories for the disbursement of that account. But, only the Secretary-Treasurer and the executive officers may authorize the expenditures or issuance of checks from those accounts. This is the proper operation of a separation of powers between the Business Committee and Executive created by the Constitution.

Accordingly, for all the foregoing, Resolutions #01-01, 01-45, and 01-46 are declared unconstitutional. They are rendered null and void pursuant to the authority of the Court found in Article 11, Section 3.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

PHIL LUJAN
CHIEF DISTRICT JUDGE

Kristie Hall Grievance Committee Position #2

I care about the future of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Last summer, I asked to be appointed to the vacant position on the Grievance Committee and was so appointed in October.

I own a computer networking company in Edmond, OK and am quite capable of making the type of decisions necessary by the Grievance Committee.

I am genuinely interested in representing our tribe in a fair and just manner and will NOT be influenced by any special interest.

Vote Kristie Hall
June 30, 2001



Southwest Regional Council



Chairman Rocky Barrett Congratulates Eleanor Fincher, The Wisest Tribal Member At The Council. At Right Is Dave Fincher.



Above: Regional Director Gene Lambert Holds McKenzie Liles (Descendant Of Joseph Megah), Youngest Tribal Member Present. At Left, Chairman Barrett Poses With McKenzie.



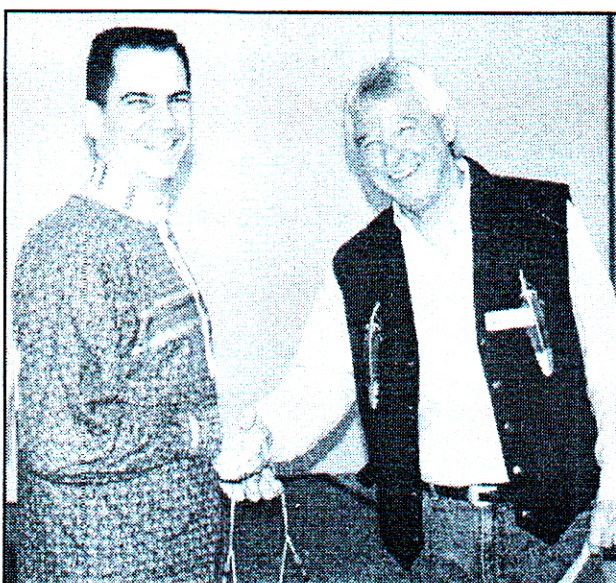
Left: Chairman Barrett With Deanna Neves (LeClair), Who Traveled Farthest For The Meeting



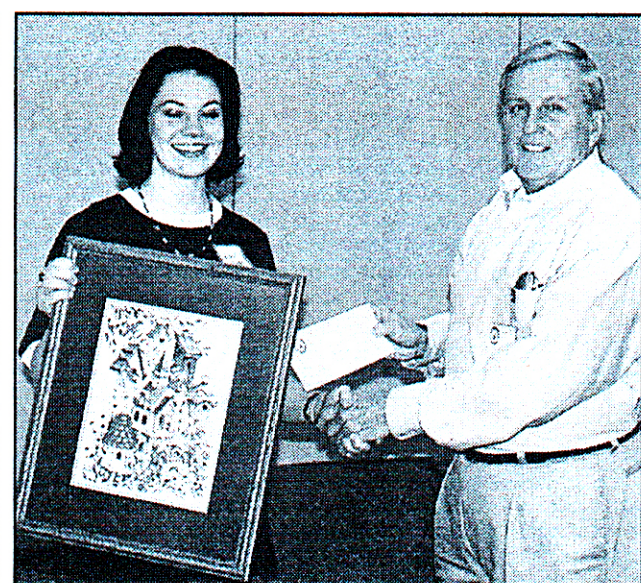
Art Contest Winners



First Place: Sue Turner, Pictured With Hilton Melot, Gene Bruno And Linda Capps



Second Place: Woody Carter, Pictured With Gene Bruno



Third Place: Deidre Higbee, Pictured With Hilton Melot

Phoenix - Feb. 10, 2001



Joy Esch, Center, Points Out Something To Fellow Tribal Members



Kira Christian, Rainy Kritkavsky, Breezy Krebs And Josie Schmidt



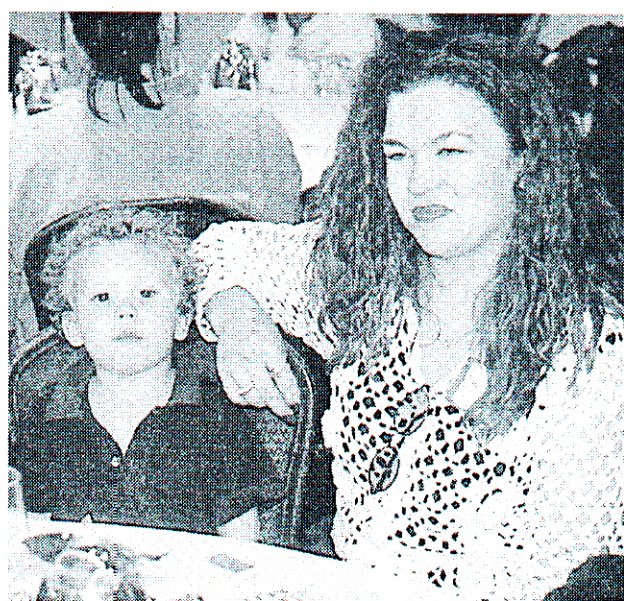
Sandra Lederer, Center, With Family



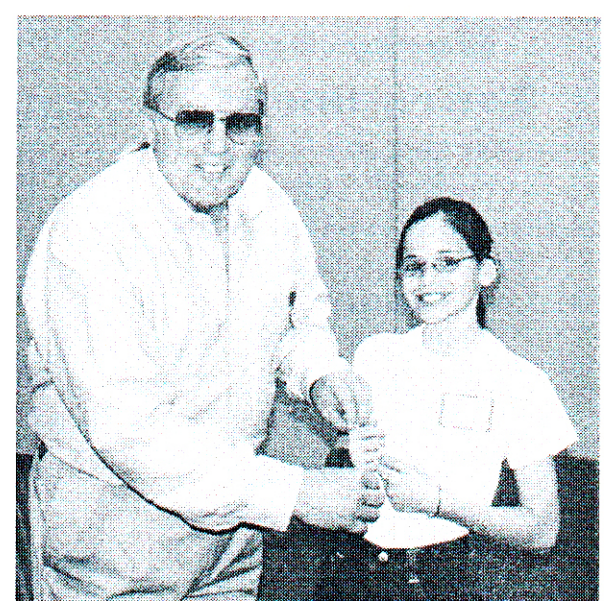
Hilton Melot And Esther Lowden



Woody Carter Jr. And Gene Bruno



Holly Fourer And Son



Hilton Melot And Michelle Carter

Festival Fun 2001

Men's & Women's Dancing

Potawatomi Only
Saturday @ 8:00 p.m.
Pow Wow Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$500
2nd place - \$200
3rd place - \$200
4th place - \$200
5th place - \$200

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

Men's Only Teams and Mixed Teams

Saturday @ 9:00 a.m.
Pow Wow Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$300/team
2nd place - \$225/team
3rd place - \$150/team

Fry Bread Competition

Unlimited Contestants
Friday @ 5:00 p.m.
Pow Wow Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Horseshoe Tournament

For Men and Women
Friday @ 5:00 p.m.
Pecan Groves - Golf Course
Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Softball

THIS IS A DRUG AND
ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

Tournament

Friday @ 10:00 a.m.
Softball Field just south of
FireLake Entertainment
Center
teams must consist of:
* (10) ten players per team
* (1) one person over 45 yrs
old
* (3) three female players
* (3) three other - male,
female, young (13 or older) or
old

Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$1000 per team
2nd place - \$750 per team
3rd place - \$500 per team
4th place - \$300 per team
5th place - \$100 per team

Volleyball Tournament

Sunday @ 4:00 p.m.
Pow Wow Grounds
Each team must have at least:
(2) two female players
(4) four potawatomi tribal
members

Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$800 per team
2nd place - \$600 per team
3rd place - \$400 per team
4th place - \$200 per team

Scotch Doubles Bowling

Friday @ 4:00 and Sunday @ 4:00

FireLake Bowling Center
(2) person teams

Prizes to be awarded as follows:

1st place - \$200
2nd place - \$150
3rd place - \$100

Prizes to be awarded for
scotch doubles at the end of the
day on Sunday.

Five Year Reunions!

Rhodd, Tescier, Young, Weld/Weldfelt, LeClair,
LaFromboise, Johnson, LaRue & Melott

Domino Tournament

Friday @ 6:00 p.m.
North Tent - Pow Wow
Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Checkers Tournament

Friday @ 5:00 p.m.
North Tent - Pow Wow
Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Chess Tournament

Friday @ 7:00 p.m.
North Tent - Pow Wow
Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Archery Contest

Sunday @ 1:00 p.m.
West of Pow Wow Grounds
Prizes to be awarded as follows:
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Golf Tournament

Space is limited so sign up
early
Saturday @ 8:30 a.m.
FireLake Golf Course

5 man teams - shotgun start -
best ball scramble
Prizes to be awarded as
follows:

1st place - \$400 per team +
merchandise
2nd place - \$300 per team +
merchandise
3rd place - \$200 per team +
merchandise

Night Golf

Friday @ 9:00 p.m.
FireLake Golf Course
5 man teams/shotgun start
Prizes to be awarded as
follows:
1st place - \$500 per team
2nd place - \$375 per team
3rd place - \$280 per team
space is limited so sign-up
early

Indian Car Contest

Saturday @ 6:30 p.m.
FireLake Discount Foods
parking lot
Car must run and have a
current tag.
Prizes to be awarded as
follows:
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Traditional Hand Games

Friday @ 8:00 p.m.
Round House - Pow Wow
Grounds
winning team wins \$100 each

Mini Putt Tournament

Sunday @ 2:00 p.m.
FireLake Mini Putt
Individual Play
Prizes to be awarded as
follows:
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75

Potawatomi Heritage Festival

Schedule of Events



FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2001

- 8:00 a.m. Registration - Pow wow Grounds and Tribal Headquarters
- 8:30 a.m. Regional Director's Meeting - Cafeteria - Tribal Headquarters
- 10:00 a.m. Softball Tournament Sign-Up - South of FireLake Discount Foods
'Trail of Death' Movie & Language and Culture Study - Museum
- 12:00 p.m. Vendors Arts & Crafts & Food - Pow wow Grounds
- 1:00 p.m. Clinic Tour - Health Complex
- 2:00 p.m. 'Trail of Death' Movie & Language and Culture Study - Museum
- 4:00 p.m. Scotch Doubles Bowling - FireLake Lanes
- 5:00 p.m. Fry Bread Competition - Pow wow Grounds
Checkers Tournament - North Tent - Pow wow Grounds
Horseshoe Tournament - Pecan Grove - FireLake Golf Course
- 6:00 p.m. Domino Tournament - North Tent - Pow wow Grounds
- 7:00 p.m. Chess Tournament - North Tent - Pow wow Grounds
- 8:00 p.m. Traditional Hand Games - Round House - Pow wow Grounds
Registration for Night Golf Begins - FireLake Golf Course
- 9:00 p.m. Country & Western Dance - South Tent - Pow wow Grounds
Night Golf - Scramble - FireLake Golf Course
- 11:00 p.m. Extreme Bowl - FireLake Lanes

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2001

- 7:00 a.m. Voting Opens (until 2:00 p.m.) - Longroom
- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast - Pow wow Grounds - served until 10:00 a.m.
Registration for Golf Tournament Begins - FireLake Golf Course
- 8:30 a.m. Golf Tournament - FireLake Golf Course - 5 man scramble
Vendors Arts & Crafts & Food - Pow wow Grounds
- 9:00 a.m. Health Screening - Health Complex - until 2:00 p.m.
3 on 3 Basketball - Pow wow Grounds
Open Bowling - FireLake Lanes
Housing Registration - Housing Department
Softball Tournament - Softball Fields - South of FireLake Discount Foods
- 10:00 a.m. 'Trail of Death' Movie & Language and Culture Study - Museum
- 1:00 p.m. Pow wow Dance Lessons - Round House - Pow wow Grounds
- 2:00 p.m. 'Trail of Death' Movie & Language and Culture Study - Museum
- 3:00 p.m. General Council - Bingo Hall
- 5:30 p.m. Gourd Dancing - Pow wow Grounds
- 6:30 p.m. Best Indian Car Contest - Pow wow Grounds
- 8:00 p.m. Grand Entry - Dancing - Pow wow Grounds
- 11:00 p.m. Extreme Bowl - FireLake Lanes

SUNDAY, JULY 1, 2001

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast - Pow wow Grounds - until 10:00 a.m.
- 9:00 a.m. Church Services - Round House - Pow wow Grounds
Orphan Singers - Round House - Immediately following Church Service
- 10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Bus Tour - Tribal Headquarters parking lot - lunch provided
- 11:00 a.m. Open Bowling - FireLake Lanes
- 1:00 p.m. Archery Tournament - West of Pow wow Grounds
- 2:00 p.m. Mini Putt Tournament - FireLake Mini Putt
- 4:00 p.m. Volleyball Tournament - Pow wow Grounds
Scotch Doubles Bowling - FireLake Lanes

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Must have festival registration to participate in the activities

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL COUNCIL



Chairman Barrett With Imogene Huffman,
Who Traveled Farthest For The Meeting

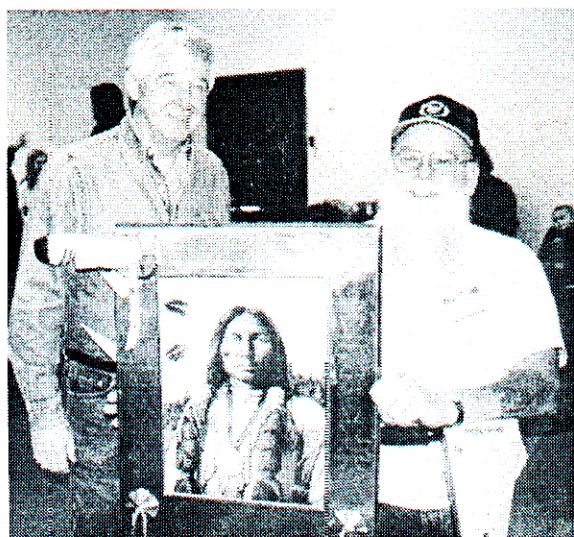


Chairman Barrett With Christian
Wydner, The Youngest Present



Chairman Barrett With R.P. Martin, The
Wisest Tribal Member At The Meeting

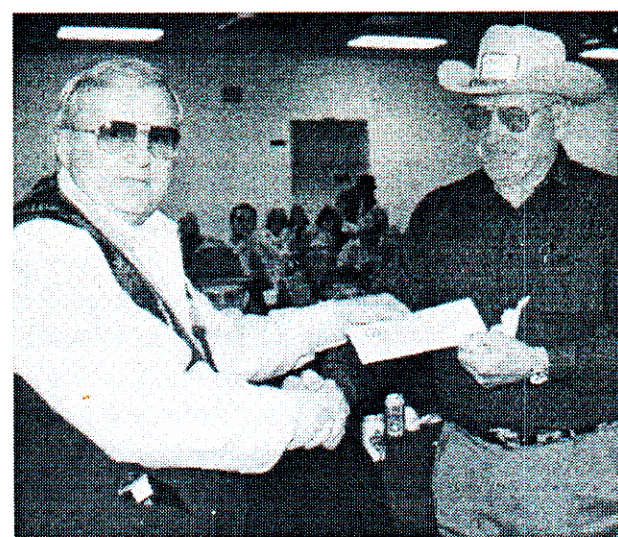
Northern California Art Competition Winners



Gene Bruno With Larry Williams



Bob Trousdale With Danny Bishop



Hilton Melot With Wayne Nearn



Left: Jacque Feliciano, Right, Visits With Fellow
Tribal Members. Below: Rachel Potter And Barbara
Potter Listed To Raymond Glenn Goodman.



March 3, 2001



Jack Wooldridge And Frank Dickman



Marey Smith And Dereatha Browder Look Over Art Entries



Mary And Jack Wyle

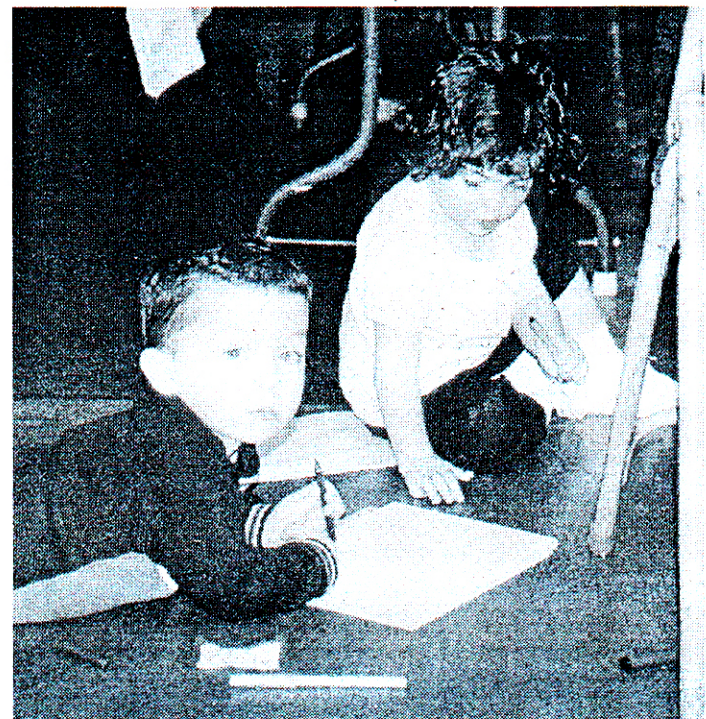


Esther Lowden With Gary And Daniel Melot



Left: Chairman Barrett With Ramona Church

Right: Young Alan Williams And Friend Stay Busy During The Meeting





Regional Office Directory

REGION 1 - OREGON/IDAHO

REGION 2 - WASHINGTON

(INCLUDES ALASKA & HAWAII)

Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste

Box 346, 11315 Wheatland Road, Gervais, OR 97026

Local (503) 792-3744 • FAX (800) 522-3744

Toll-Free (800) 522-3744

e-mail: Region01@Potawatomi.org

REGION 3 - NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Thom Finks

135 Finley St., Auburn CA 95603

Local (530) 887-8102 • FAX (530) 887-8102

1-800-874-8585

e-mail: Region03@potawatomi.org

REGION 4 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jeremy Bertrand Finch

250 Wigmore Drive, Pasadena, CA 911052921

Local (626) 403-0930 • FAX (800) 432-2008

1-800-432-2008

e-mail: Region04@Potawatomi.org

REGION 5 - SOUTHWEST

(INCLUDES ARIZONA & WESTERN NEW MEXICO)

Gene Lambert

P.O. Box 5905, Mesa, AZ 85211

Local (480) 668-0509 • FAX (480) 649-7443

Toll-Free (800) 452-8966

e-mail: Region05@Potawatomi.org

REGION 6 - COLORADO

(INCLUDES MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING,

WESTERN NEBRASKA, WESTERN KANSAS)

Cheryl DeGraff

11310 W. 46th Avenue, WheatRidge, CO 80033

1-800-627-5003 • Local 1-303-432-0255

e-mail: Region06@Potawatomi.org

REGION 7 - NORTHERN TEXAS

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEW MEXICO)

Marjorie Hobdy

3132 Kathy Lane, Irving, TX 75060

Local (972) 790-3075 • Toll-Free (800) 742-3075

e-mail: Region07@Potawatomi.org

REGION 8 - SOUTHERN TEXAS

Lu Ellis

26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd., Magnolia, TX 77355

Local (281) 356-7957 • Toll-Free (800) 272-7957

e-mail: Region08@Potawatomi.org

REGION 9 - MIDWEST

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEBRASKA & EASTERN KANSAS)

Mary-Ellen Vieux Clinton

P.O. Box 750587, Topeka, KS 66675-0587

Local (785) 235-0134 • Toll-Free (800) 325-6639

e-mail: Region09@Potawatomi.org

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is divided into different "Regional Offices" to help cover the extended membership across the nation. Originally labeled merely by region names, regional boundaries were established in late 1997 using the US Postal Service "3 digit" Zip code areas. Region '0' is generally considered Oklahoma while the other states that are not numbered currently do not have an official "Region" designator.

REGIONAL REPORTS

North Texas

Winter is still hanging on. A relative laughed when I said we have had a long winter. He is visiting in Texas to get away from the icy conditions in Missouri. I did not know there was that much difference, but apparently there is. The daffodils are almost through blooming. The irises are up and the trees are leafing out, so spring is coming no matter what.

Now that the days are longer and sunnier, the tribal members have started calling. They have questions about medical care, prescription drugs, scholarships and help with closing costs for new homes. One person called

regarding prescription costs, but before I could return her call, the people in Shawnee had called with the information she needed. Remember if you meet the criteria, there is help with the health aids program.

My husband and I went out to eat and our waiter was a young man from Oklahoma. When I asked him what part, he said he had gone to St. Gregory's. I mentioned that the tribe had an agreement with St. Gregory's and he knew about that. It's amazing how often we run into someone and find a connection. It's a small world out there and I try to remember to be polite. It may be someone

I know or who knows of me.

The dates for the Festival will be June 29 & 30 and July 1. Mark your calendars and plan to be there. If you cannot be there, be sure and order your absentee ballot. There will be a form in the paper. It is very important that you make your voice heard in the election.

Graduation will be here before we know it and you need to be checking on the scholarships available for those who are starting or continuing college next year. It's never too early to begin checking into this aid. Call me if I can be of help to you.

Marj Hobdy

Southwest

Hello again, from the Southwest Region. It was such a wonderful meeting. For those of you who could not be there please, please do yourself a favor and mark it on your calendar for next year. We are organizing local Potawatomi members to house, those who come from afar, in their homes. This would make the trip more affordable for those who would like to attend. We are planning a picnic or barbeque in April and would love to hear from you. If you would like to join us, let me know.

This year was a spectacular turnout and after a small press release (that announced there would be 5,000?) we had more than usual. The most interesting call came from a man who lived in Aho, Arizona, claiming he had never met another Potawatomi and had no idea they even had meetings. He was so excited to come and meet not only other Potawatomis but to actually meet and talk with the leadership. It was obviously a pretty big moment for him and for everyone there to participate in his joy.

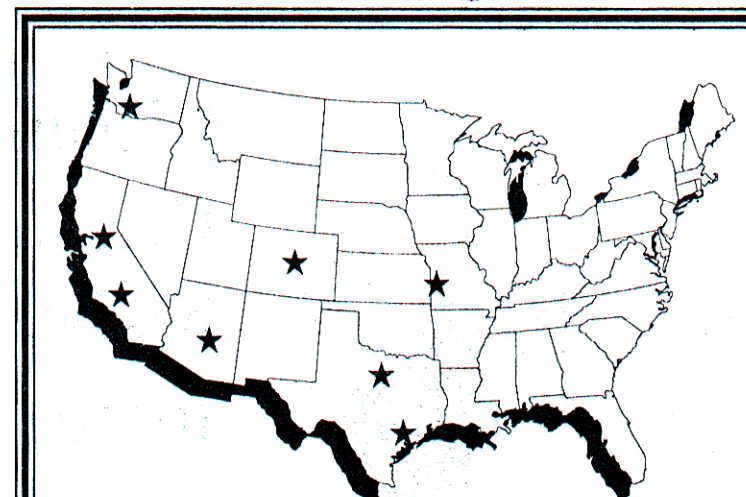
The sun was shining and the beautiful day added to the delicious meal served in the garden. The children were busy making valentines for their friends and family while

legends of our forefathers were being told by our Chairman, John "Rocky" Barrett. The art contests continue and the participants exude pride in their works. It truly was a proud day for us. Another mark in time allowing our children and grandchildren to gather, as

did our forefathers, thus continues the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

As always, I close wishing all of you all the good things life has to offer. Warmest personal regards,

Gene Lambert



2000-2001 Regional Council Schedule

Denver	Sept. 16, 2000
Eastern United States	Oct. 14, 2000
Dallas	Nov. 11, 2000
Southern California	Jan. 20, 2001
Phoenix	Feb. 10, 2001
Northern California	March 3, 2001
Houston	March 24, 2001
Oregon/Idaho/Washington	April 7, 2001
Kansas	May 12, 2001



**PLEASE
VOTE**

**ESTHER LOWDEN
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN
TIME FOR A CHANGE**

**REMEMBER DEADLINE DATE
FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT
REQUESTS IS JUNE 11TH**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Free Political Ad

Bozho Tribal Members,
My name is John Rhodd,
and I am running for the
Tribal Grievance
Committee Position #1.



I grew up in Kansas and moved from
South Carolina to Oklahoma to learn more
about and be a part of our tribe.

I've put 21 years in the Army, so I know
what honor, honesty and integrity mean.

I'm proud to be Potawatomi, and hope to
serve the Tribe well.

William "John" Rhodd

Free Political Advertisement

Re-Elect Vieux for Grievance Committee Position #3



"Thank you for allowing me to serve on the
Grievance Committee for the past 2 terms. It
has been an honor and a privilege. Please vote
for me on June 30, 2001. I promise to serve
you to the best of my ability and again I ask
for your vote. Thank you."

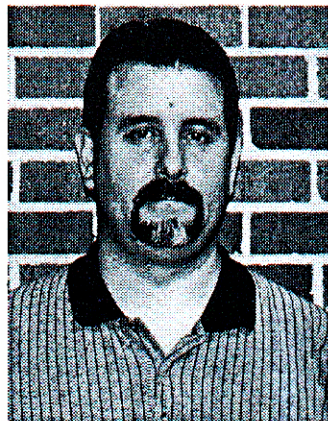
- Teresa Vieux

Don't Change the Vieux

Free Political Advertisement

Vote *Paul Schmidlkofer*

* Graduate of
St. Gregory's University
* Teacher at Gordon
Cooper Technology
Center.



Grievance Committee Position #1
June 30, 2001

Free Political Advertisement

Vote for



Clay Oden Grievance Committee #3 June 30, 2001

Free Political Advertisement

Bosho fellow tribal members,

I am William 'Dub' Howell of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, I am a member of the Curley family of the Sacred Heart area. I am a Potawatomi that knows who he is and where my roots are. I have never been interested in running for any tribal position until now. I have always known what was happening and now due to what has taken place in the last few weeks, I feel like it's time to get involved.



I believe I can help make a difference, I will be fair and honest and do my best to live up to these promises.

I ask for your support and your vote.

William 'Dub' Howell
Grievance Committee Position # 2

Free Political Ad

Kristie Hall

Grievance Committee Position #2

I care about the future of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Last summer, I asked to be appointed to the vacant position on the Grievance Committee and was so appointed in October.

I own a computer networking company in Edmond, OK and am quite capable of making the type of decisions necessary by the Grievance Committee.

I am genuienly interested in representing our tribe in a fair and just manner and will NOT be influenced by any special interest.



Vote Kristie Hall
June 30, 2001

For the Next Generation

Who is this 'Lady of the Prairie?'
Helen Vieux Peltier



Billy Ray Peltier
Tribal Member
Second Generation Law Enforcement Officer
First Chief of Police of Wanette

"WHAT ARE ESTHER LOWDEN'S QUALIFICATIONS?"

Has she ever been a member of the Business Committee?
Has she ever managed an organization with hundreds of employees or thousands of members?

Has she ever developed a successful business from concept to creation?

Has she ever negotiated with the federal government to protect Citizen Potawatomi interests?

What does she know about being Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi?

"Is Esther Lowden being supported by the Absentee Shawnee? Aren't the Absentee Shawnee who we just won a law suit against claiming that they were "squatters" on the Potawatomi reservation? Aren't the Absentee Shawnee who claim that the Citizen Potawatomi live on their reservation. If yes, then ask Esther why they are financing her campaign! Esther Lowden does not have the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's interests at heart."



Vote John A. 'Rocky' Barrett, Jr. June 30, 2001

Billy Ambrose Peltier
Tribal Member
First Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chief of Police
Veteran of World War II and Korea
1st Marine Division, 7th Regiment, 3rd Battalion, Company I

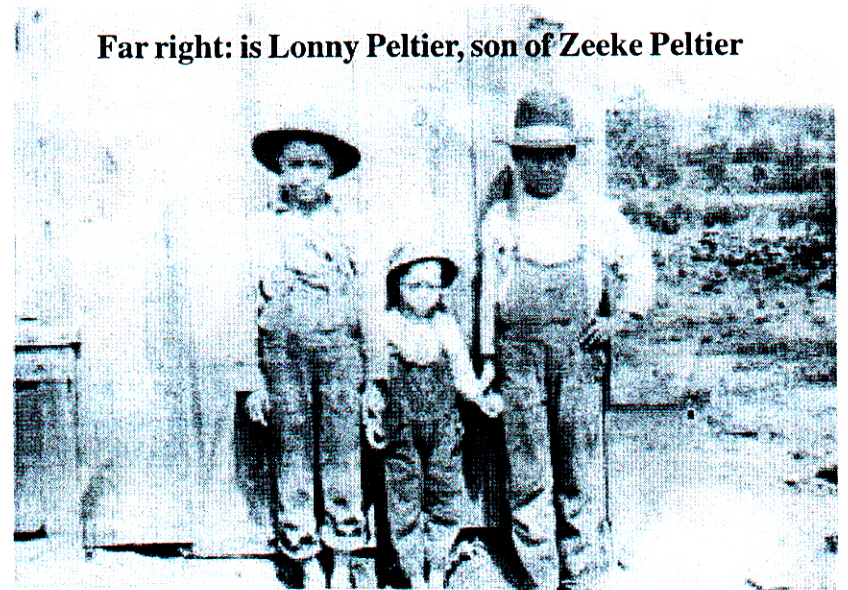
"It takes a man with backbone, integrity, and courage to stand up for Indian politics and, to have done it for over 20 years, shows that it has been his life work on our behalf."

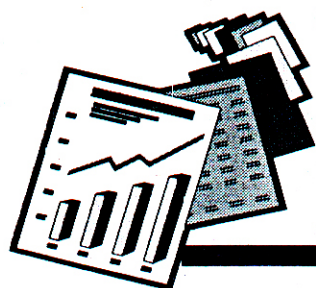
"I do take pride in my tribe and what has been accomplished."

"My biggest fear for the tribe is that Rocky does not get reelected. Our tribe will be set back another 30 years because of someone else's lack of experience."

"Tireless work of Rocky Barrett has brought about the success of our tribe. Thank God for the Business Committee for supporting Mr. Barrett and all of the hard work of the staff who fight the battles everyday to bring in money to the tribe and to protect it. It takes unity and pride and hard, hard work to have a tribe this strong. Rocky Barrett is definitely one of the greatest leaders of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation."

Far right: is Lonny Peltier, son of Zeeke Peltier





NEWS OF CPN DEPARTMENTS & ENTERPRISES

WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?

Office of Self Governance

By Rhonda Butcher and Lisa Kraft

While not exactly providing direct services to tribal members, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) does provide in-house or indirect services to the tribal administration on behalf of tribal members. Working behind the scenes, the OSG's prime directives are to promote and protect tribal sovereignty and to maintain a course towards tribal self-sufficiency.

In last month's introductory column, we highlighted only those activities carried out by the Grants and Contracts Division of the Office of Self-Governance. This month, we want to take time to briefly discuss OSG's additional responsibilities.

The negotiation of Annual Funding Agreements (AFA) between the CPN and Indian Health Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs takes place between April and June and is perhaps one of the most important tasks of this office. The AFAs for both federal agencies become effective on Oct. 1 of each year. OSG is responsible for researching federal programs operated by IHS and BIA and their funding. In return, OSG provides the agencies with proof of the CPN's management capabilities through annual reports and financial statements. Several days of negotiation and meetings take place over a three-month period. When all has been negotiated and approved by the Business Committee, the CPN is awarded lump sum payments for approximately \$5.4 million from IHS and \$3.4 from BIA. To ensure that we negotiate for all of the federal dollars we can, we meet every other month with other Oklahoma Self-Governance Tribes to address unresolved issues, funding discrepancies within IHS and BIA programs, and regional funding disparities. We also attend two national Self-Governance conferences a year.

To keep up with the changes in federal administrations and the activities of the members of Congress, OSG monitors legislation on a large scale. Our staff maintains a professional relationship with the National Congress of the American Indian, Office of Self-Governance Communication and Education, and various federal departments and agencies comprising the United States government. We receive new and changing information everyday. One afternoon we may be making comments on the new Bush cabinet nominees or simply proposing changes to federal rules and regulations. Our staff generates letters in support of new legislation and makes comments on proposed legislation that would negatively impact our Tribe and its ability to serve its

members and clients. Most importantly, we provide a voice of opposition or support in matters pertaining to Tribal sovereignty.

Another recurring activity of the OSG is to develop annual program budgets. Our staff assists Department Directors and Accounting with devising annual budgets. Once completed, each departmental budget is submitted to the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee projects how much Indirect Cost the Tribe will need in order to administer each program and how much can be collected from federal grant funding sources. The Budget Committee also makes staffing recommendations in order to help the staff grow with the programs in order to meet program goals.

When all is said and done, OSG is only one of many spokes in the wheel that rolls the tribe towards success.

FireLake Golf Course

We have had a very long and hard winter. On the bright side, spring is on its way. We have our normal ninety to one hundred tournaments on schedule. The golf course is ready for spring play. We are going to start the fire removal the last week of March. This project should take us about a month to finish. When that is finished we have some new projects for the golf course, which we will keep you informed in the upcoming HowNiKan.

In Christ,

Mike Wood

Christian Visitation Team

The CVT has had a lot of prayer requests this past year. Even though our numbers are few we plan on doing God's work and helping others. We have sent get-well cards and flowers when needed. Our prayer requests are confidential. If you are interested in joining the CVT (tribal member or employee) contact Mike Wood at (405) 275-4471 or mwood@potawatomi.org. We have a long distance member Gene Lambert from Region 5 with the team.

In Christ,

Mike Wood

Safety Department

In an effort to make our workplace environment safe and healthy, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation began an on-going training program. Training is the foundation to which success can be measured. In November, the Safety Department began training 100 employees in CPR and First-Aid. In January, 12 employees received training on the forklift operation. In March, two trainings were held, one on Violence in the Workplace

and the other on blood borne pathogens. It is the goal of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to provide a safe and healthy environment for all who visit and work in our facilities.

Employment & Training

The Employment and Training Department in conjunction with the Shawnee Housing Authority hosted The Education and Employment Ministries (T.E.E.M.) Workshop the week of February 26. This workshop was designed to explore hidden talents, complete assessments of abilities, interests and values and focus on positive, personal motivation for their clients.

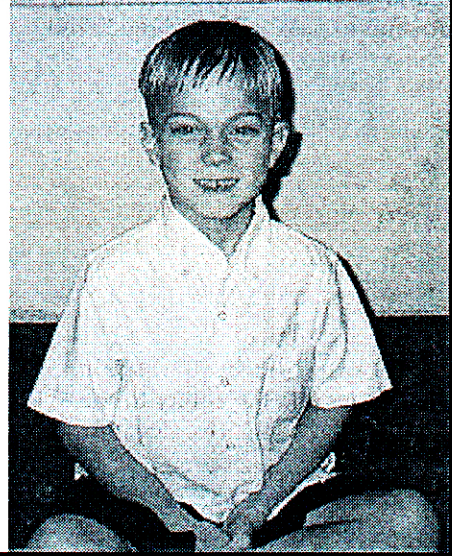
Approximately 30 participants took

advantage of the community resources, video-taped interviews and assessments tools such as the Caps Cops, and Copes. One participant, Ellis Talamasey, states, "he found the interview tips very helpful and has already used the tips in a recent interview." Cheryl Cook, with the Oklahoma Employment Securities Commission and Workforce Oklahoma Office Manager, states the training that Ginna Tiger, TEEM workshop participant, received really helped her in her function as receptionist at the Workforce Oklahoma One-Stop Center.

The next workshop of this nature will be held this summer. For more information, contact Brenda Tingler at 405-275-5269.

Honor Student

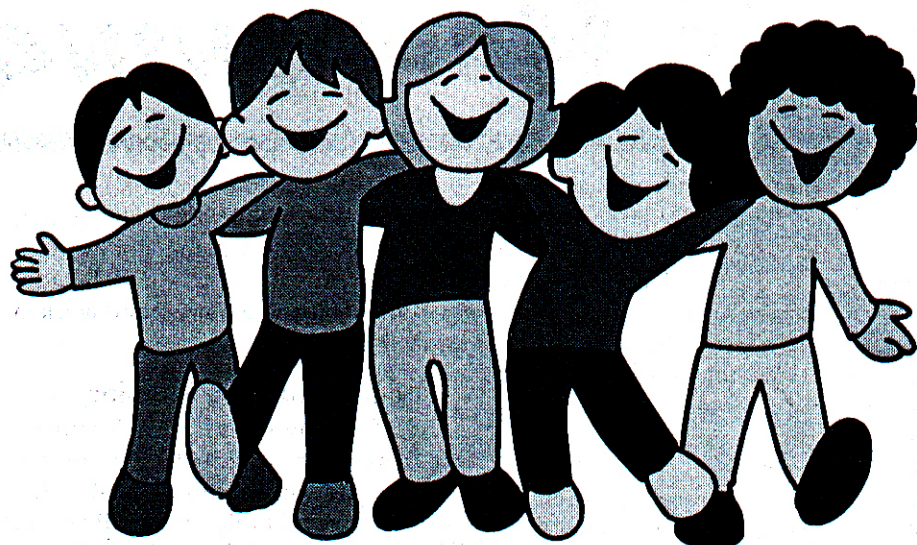
River Jordan Clark, 6 years old, attends Little Axe Public Schools. In January, the Indian Education Board and Little Axe School awarded him with the Golden Star Award for being on the Honor Roll and the Student of the Quarter. The Student of the Quarter Award is for exemplifying the assets of superior citizenship, scholarship and leadership. There was a reception held in his honor at the school. River is the son of Amy and Paul Clark, McLoud, Oklahoma, and the grandson of Jan McCall, Oklahoma City. River is also a descendent of the Ogee clan.



Poetry Contest

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will be hosting a poetry contest this Spring. If you are interested in entering, please contact Dennette Bare at 405-275-3121 or by e-mail at dbrand@potawatomi.org.

Head Start helps children learn better



HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala recently released a preliminary evaluation of Early Head Start showing that children in the new child development program performed significantly better in cognitive, language and social-emotional development compared to children not participating in the program. Parents in Early Head Start also showed more positive parenting behavior, reported less physical punishment of their children and provided more help for their children to learn at home.

Early Head Start provides high quality child and family development services to pregnant women and infants and toddlers, from birth to age 3, a time considered one of the most important in a child's cognitive and social development. It was started in 1995 as a new component of the Head Start program that serves children age 3 to 4.

"Early Head Start is about giving our youngest and most disadvantaged children a chance to grow up healthy, to learn and to prepare for school," said Secretary Shalala. "Everyone who helped create the program, the providers who teach the children, and the parents who are taking part can be very proud of what we've accomplished in a very short time."

Major findings of the preliminary evaluation of 2-year-old children in the program include higher scores in standardized tests of infant and toddler development and reports of larger vocabularies and the ability to speak in more complex sentences. One-third of Early Head Start children were found to be at risk of slower developmental learning compared to 40 percent of the non-Early Head Start children. This indicates that Early Head Start children may also be less at risk of needing special learning intervention services in later years.

The results pertaining to parents present further evidence of Early Head Start's ability to promote learning in the home, to better prepare children for

school, and to reduce family stress. The preliminary study reports that Early Head Start parents were more supportive of promoting learning, language and literacy at home by reading more to their children and engaging in more structured play activity than parents not in the program. Early Head Start parents also set more regular bedtimes and read to children before sleep. They spanked their children less and were more likely to resolve problems by using distraction, explanation or mild responses rather than physical punishment. Early Head Start parents also reported lower levels of family conflict and stress related to parenting. These findings indicate that the program is equipping parents with strategies to cope with conflict and to help break a cycle of parental stress and potential harm to children.

"This study is enormously important for the future of Early Head Start and all early childhood programs by showing that a large national program that is well-implemented, maintains quality, and focuses on specific child development goals for children and parents can succeed," said Olivia A. Golden, HHS assistant secretary for children and families. "There will be more to learn, but we now know that the Early Head Start blueprint of an

early, intensive program can yield significant results and brighter outcomes for children."

Early Head Start provides its full range of services in home-based, center-based and mixed settings. The evaluation found that the child development services provided directly by Early Head Start programs were generally of high quality. Though there were differences in results for children and parents among the three program formats, overall findings regarding

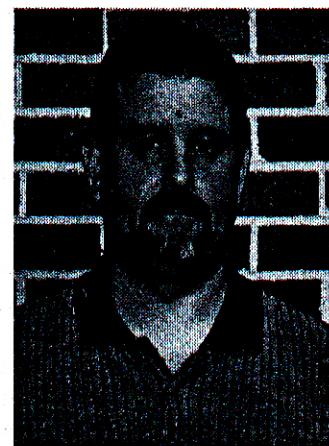
improvements in children's cognitive development and parental behavior were broad and substantial. Findings were strongest in programs that fully implemented the Head Start performance standards. The preliminary report covered children up to the age of 2. The study will continue to assess their progress for another year.

Early Head Start was launched in 1995 based on recommendations from the bipartisan Advisory Committee on Head Start appointed by Secretary Shalala. There are currently 635 Early Head Start programs serving 45,000 low-income children and their families. Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. and Columbia University's Center for Children and Families, in collaboration with the Early Head Start Research Consortium, prepared the national evaluation, which was begun in 1995. The evaluation studied approximately 3,000 children and families in 17 sites across the country during the first two years of the children's lives.

The final report following children through age three will be out next year. A copy of the preliminary study is available on the ACF web site at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news>.

Vote Paul Schmidlkofer

* Graduate of
St. Gregory's University
* Teacher at Gordon
Cooper Technology
Center.



Grievance Committee Position #1
June 30, 2001

Free Political Advertisement

The Oklahoma and No Region
Art Competitions will be held
May 19, 2001 at 10:00 a.m.
in the Longroom (1901 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.)

For rules and regulations, contact
Dennette Bare at 405-275-3121.

The Pioneering Life A Century Ago

In the three or four years after relinquishing his position with the American Fur company, on the Iroquois, during which time LeVasseur had conducted trading operations with the Pottawatomis on his own account, he had prospered financially far beyond his wildest expectations and was beginning to experience that comfortable, well-to-do feeling which is the reward of well directed industry. On quitting the Astor company and going with Hubbard in 1828, he found he had saved by careful economy the sum of \$1,500, which the French of that day called "piastres." On taking over the trading post of Bunkum to conduct on his own account M. Stewart, a merchant of Montreal, Canada, sold to him a quantity of merchandise to the amount of five thousand dollars upon the understanding that in the pursuit of business, LeVasseur was to have no competition in trade within a radius of sixty miles. Eighteen months later LeVasseur found his profits enlarged by the comfortable sum of \$1,800.

We can understand somewhat the situation in which LeVasseur found himself in that fateful year of 1832. He was reluctant to abandon a situation which yielded such magnificent profits as \$1,800 in the space of a year and a half. One hundred years ago a man with \$1,800 in cold cash did not need to worry as to the future unless he really enjoyed it. At the insistence of his friend and compatriot in the wilderness trade, Gurdon S. Hubbard, who was in touch with the government plans for the native people of this region, LeVasseur made the change of residence to the Kankakee as noted in a previous chapter. It was a move apparently timed to meet the psychological moment of greater profits and increased opportunity. You know what the poet says of opportunity—

*"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood,
Leads on to fortune."*

LeVasseur's coming to the Kankakee in 1832 was, therefore, most opportune. The rising tide of affairs and the new regime found him on the ground, advantageously situated—ready and waiting. Even then he may have sensed the passing of the trader and his aboriginal clients at an early day but he could not have foreseen the financial harvest that was to result by reason of a treaty under which the government pledged itself to deal in a spirit of broad liberality with the native people in the matter of reservation lands, "floats," money and goods. At the time LeVasseur came to Bourbonnais the treaty was in the making. Its details were being carefully worked out by men accustomed to the business. Already the head chiefs of the nation of the Pottawatomis of the Prairie and the Kankakee had submitted to them the chief details of the treaty apportionments.

This is one of a series of articles from Burt E. Burroughs: *Annotated - The Story of Kankakee's Earliest Pioneer Settlers*, a local history book published in Bradley, Illinois, in 1986. The book was compiled from newspaper articles written in 1932 and published in the *Kankakee Daily Republican*. It is reprinted with permission of Vic Johnson, whose notes and introduction are part of the book, which contains a wealth of information about Potawatomi families and their lives while in the Great Lakes area.

This formed the basis of a general treaty draft which was concluded October 20, 1832, with the tentative approval of the chiefs, the same being duly ratified as the Treaty of Camp Tippecanoe of the date of January 21, 1833.

Among the signatories to this momentous document as witnesses, we find the names of Gurdon S. Hubbard and the two Beaubiens, of Chicago, Jean Baptiste and Meadore. All three were employed by the government in the capacity of interpreters. They were well rewarded for their services in this instance. Hubbard received \$5,773; Jean Baptiste Beaubien, \$3,000, and through the intervention of his friend, Hubbard, LeVasseur found himself mentioned in the pleasing sum of \$1,800. By the terms of Article 3, of the treaty, the government bound itself to pay the Pottawatomis a cash annuity of \$15,000 yearly for a period of twenty years. After the signing of the treaty the government was to turnover the sum of \$45,000 in goods immediately, besides a further sum of thirty thousand dollars in merchandise at Chicago in the year of 1833. There as also the matter of certain horses which the Indians insisted their white brethren had stolen at various times and for which proper cash remuneration should be allowed.

The commissioners apparently winked at the fact that the stealing of horses was confined wholly to members of the white race in this case and indulgently admitted, by inference, that the varied claims brought forth and submitted were without fault and based on justice. It was agreed that forty dollars should represent the value of each horse thus feloniously extracted from the herds of the Indians making the claim, and a clause of the treaty specifically mentions \$1400 thus set aside to pay for thirty-five head of ponies that the predatory white man had appropriated unto himself. Would an Indian steal a horse? Perish the thought! The facts are, these depredations were committed among themselves. An Indian could no more pass up a horse that he had a chance to steal than he could resist a drink of whiskey when opportunity offered. But, when making a treaty with the Great White Father in Washington, who insisted on their selling their lands and at a cheap price, the opportunity to make him pay for the lost ponies was too good to be lost.

Thus, the chief Shaw-wa-nas-see, down at Rock Creek, drew the modest sum of forty dollars for a stolen pony. Chief Me-she-ke-te-no, nearer home drew pay for one. And Naw-ca-t-sho, who had not fared so well under the general terms of the treaty, drew pay for four—he figured he could use the change.

The sum of \$1,800 awarded to Noel LeVasseur in this case was not a donation in any sense, but is rather to be regarded as liberal pay for active service on his part in persuading his red brethren of the Kankakee to accept the terms of the treaty as framed. He was peculiarly fitted for this mission since he had been adopted into the tribe. He was aided by his Indian wife, Wat-che-kee who, in accordance with the wishes of her lord, urged her people to accept the treaty with all the power at her command. She submerged any personal feeling she may have had concerning the matter and followed the lead of the master of the house.

From his newly-made home at Bull-bonus Grove, on the trail, LeVasseur carried on his trading and missionary efforts on behalf of the acceptance of the treaty over a wilderness sector which was especially populous containing no less than five villages of the Pottawatomis. There was Wais-us-kuck's village south of the river at Waldron, near the present Day ford, the village of She-mor-gar, on Soldier Creek, within the present city of Kankakee, the village of Me-she-ke-t-no, near the river west of Bull-bonus Grove, the village of Jean Baptiste Chevalier, which was north of the trail and near to the present southern boundary line of the town of Rockville, and the larger and more imposing Rock Creek village of Chief Shaw-wa-nas-see, at Rock Creek, all located within a fifteen-mile span. LeVasseur had traded with the people of these villages for many years and held their confidence to a remarkable degree. His mission thus was made easy and his efforts were productive of powerful results, more especially since his Indian wife, who was of the blood, joined her efforts with his. Hence, he received good pay for exceptionally good service on behalf of the treaty.

The terms of the treaty dealt liberally with these children of the forest and the prairie as a matter of fact. To begin with, the head chiefs an others of influence in the councils of the several tribes were allotted grants of land, or reservations, and these allotments invariably represented the choicest situations on the streams and the finest and most desirable of the timber. Timber in close proximity to the water was the Indian ideal. It was a refuge for the smaller fur bearing animals, there were fish in the stream, and there was wood for his tepee fire. There was an abundance of the sweet sap of the maple which was collected in quantities in the early spring and made into sugar—such as the French called "sucre d'erable," for which the Indian had a yearning. As the season progressed there were quantities of roots and herbs which figured in a large way in the Indian menus as well as luscious wild fruits which the forests held in great profusion and quantity. Those to whom these reservations were made held them under treaty to live on or

sell as they chose.

It was a revelation to LeVasseur to find that in the fifteen-mile section extending from the present village site of Waldron to Rock Creek along the northern bank of the Kankakee River, which probably represented the choicest part of the public domain of that day, had been set apart as reservations, with the exception of an interval of two miles of river frontage in Kankakee and Aroma townships of today. First, there was the two sections reserved to the children of Me-saw-ke-qua, in Aroma township. The site of the city of Kankakee was contained within the reservation of Catish, Mawteno and Washington Bourbonnais, a section each, following which in succession were the reservations of Jacques Jonveau, Me-she-ke-to-no, Frances Levia, the children of Wais-ke-saw, Nancy, Sally and Betsey Countreman, Josette and Angilique Chevalier, Jean Baptiste Chevalier and Chief Shaw-wa-nas-see. There were numerous other reservations nearby on the creek tributaries of the Kankakee, but those named represented the very heart of the Pottawatomis country.

LeVasseur thrilled at the prospect as more and more the meaning of this great transition from virgin wilderness and the supplanting of the native Pottawatomis population by the white race became apparent to his understanding. What a harvest there was in store for the next few years for the trader fortified with credentials as a member of the Pottawatomis nation itself and with an acquaintance with these people of year's standing! In his talks with the rank and file of the Indian population of the Kankakee relative to the terms of the treaty then pending, LeVasseur dwelt at length and with much emphasis on a certain clause of the treaty, to-wit: "That the said tribe of the Pottawatomis having been faithful allies of the United States during the late contest with the Sacs and Foxes, in consideration thereof, the United States agrees to permit them to hunt and fish on the lands ceded, also on the lands of the government on Wabash and Saugamore rivers, so long as the same shall remain the property of the United States." The argument was that they enjoyed all the privileges of ownership as regards the land, and besides \$45,000 worth of merchandise equitably distributed at the signing of the treaty, they were to get \$15,000 in cash annually for a period of twenty years. What more could anyone ask. The prospect was so rosy that it is not to be wondered as if the staunch old woodsman and pioneer, LeVasseur, in his day dreams sometimes turned from the contemplation of the rainbow of promise that spanned his own pathway, to consider his Indian associates with a sort of vagrant, half-formed wish that he were one of them. Turn in whatever direction he would he beheld the floodtide of opportunity and was cheered thereby.

A "Warrior" is sworn to protect the safety of all children in the village and give up his life freely.



Moments like eating breakfast at the kitchen table, on the way to grandma's house, or getting ready for a brand new day of school are all great opportunities you have to communicate with your children. Take time, pass down the traditions and communicate to our youth that drugs are not a part of our Native cultures.

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Vice chairman endorses Barrett for chairman

Bouzhon Nikon, (Hello, My Friends)

Vice Chairman Linda Capps has endorsed me for re-election. She stated that she believes I have better qualifications to work with her in experience, training, and what she calls "vision for the future." I am grateful to her for her decision.

My website — potawatomichairman.com — has an advertisement by Linda Capps telling her position. For those of you without computers, I am sending mail to as many addresses as I have accumulated over the years. This mailing will contain the same advertisement.

This issue of the *HowNiKan* contains the full opinion of Judge Phillip Lujan, Chief District Judge, ruling that Tribal Resolution 01-01 and the other two supporting resolutions are unconstitutional. His explanation of why he ruled the way he did makes this the most important tribal court ruling in the history of our Tribe. Please read it. It will have a huge impact on the way our tribal government will function in the future.

The next logical question you may ask is: "Does this Tribal Court opinion affect me?" The answer depends on three questions:

1. Do you or your family anticipate claiming the assistance from our tribe that is your birthright?
2. Do you or your family want the culture of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to be preserved and made accessible to future generations?
3. Do you or your family want the right to serve in our tribal government and elect tribal officials from your own Regional Council?

Our tribe has grown financially by 300% over the last five years. With our new businesses, it will continue this growth, if well managed. The Tribal Court decision says that the Chairman and Vice Chairman are to manage the day-to-day business of the Tribe. That is how we got where we are today.

Judge Lujan's opinion emphasizes that governments must have SEPARATION OF POWERS. Someone has to be in charge of an organization and run it. Another group has to make the rules. And a third group must decide differences between the two. Without these three independent



From The Chairman

By JOHN A. "ROCKY" BARRETT

elements, Executive, Legislative, and Judicial, our tribal government and our businesses will fail.

Judge Lujan's opinion says that the wording of our Tribal Constitution creates a SEPARATION OF POWERS. My opponent in this election believes that the Chairman is simply a presiding officer for the Business Committee, and the Chairman has no real power to govern without permission from them. My opponent says she plans to turn over the Tribal Government to a committee or an outside employee. I believe this is wrong. I agree with Judge Lujan. Now that the Tribal Court has resolved the legal conflicts over how our government is supposed to operate, I promise to do the following:

- Work to make the Regional Councils part of our Tribal Constitution.
- Work to allow the Regional Councils to elect representatives to a Tribal Legislature.
- Work to allow the Chairman and Vice Chairman to be elected from our entire population, not just one-fourth of our people.
- Increase the services to our entire population by creating a Regional Council House in each national Region, with telecommunication links to Tribal Headquarters, First National Bank, and each other.
- Incorporate the Regional Council operations to allow separate tribal and federal funding of services for Citizen Potawatomi living in each Region. The Regional Council Houses will include one or more of these services: housing, business loans, medical assistance, day care, education assistance, tribal government, emergency financial aid, language instruction, and tribal culture teaching and events. This money is available NOW.
- Amend the Constitution to create a Tribal Legislature with elected

representatives from each Regional Council plus allow the Chairman and Vice Chairman to be elected from anywhere as long as they move here to serve their term of office.

I have kept every campaign promise I ever made in the last 23 years. We have the resources to do all of this now if two things happen: (1) our business ventures continue to prosper, and (2) the Business

Committee cooperates in placing a constitutional amendment on the election ballot to formally recognize the Regional Councils and their rights.

The first requirement is up to you and how you vote in this election. The second requirement can only be met if the Business Committee ends the quibbling and puts the tribe first. If they do not, I will come to you and ask you to sign a petition to amend the Tribal Constitution to require that this amendment be put to a vote of our members.

Megwetch,

John Barrett

Fellow Tribal Members,

I attended the Regional Council meeting in Seattle, April 7, 2001. It was very nicely planned and attended. While visiting with members there, it became even more apparent and crucial that all Potawatomi members pay very special attention to the coming election in June. I was very proud and pleased to see the great accomplishments our Tribe has made under the leadership of John Barrett and other intelligent and progressive people that care about the future of our Tribe. These are the people we need to keep in office in order to continue this prosperity and growth. They have the expertise, education, dedication and most of all, the love for their Tribes heritage. Their continued, competent leadership is needed in order to preserve, protect and enhance each and every members future and well being. Let us support these individuals in their efforts and be wary of gossip and hearsay. Take a good look at our Tribal grounds, our financial statements, our medical care and our scholarship programs and many more. These same people are the ones responsible. There is certainly no need to make a change and hope others with less experience and expertise could or would make it better. My vote will be cast for John Barrett and his track record!

Glenn Lazelle

Paid for by Glenn Lazelle, 1039 Wheatland Rd., Kendrick, ID 83537